COLORADO BIRD NOTES

Bulletin of the Colorado Bird Club

Vol. 3 No. 5 January 1956

CHRISTMAS COUNT

The tally to date on this year's Christmas Counts is 113 species. On the whole the birding was better than on last year's "drought" count. As usual we found some surprises. Mockingbirds had been considered as birds which do not occur in Colorado in winter by the old way of thinking of rarities. This year, however, Mockingbirds turned up on three counts and in at least one other locality since the census period. The mild weather dispersed the waterfowl from the major lakes and streams resulting in low counts of diving ducks and of Snipe. The Pheasant count is far below what it was three or four years ago. On the other hand several species appear to be more numerous than in other years. Nutcrackers, Ravens and Siskins for some reason have invaded lower altitudes. Red-breasted Nuthatches, Gray Shrikes, Evening Grosbeaks, and White-crowned Sparrows appear to be at the peaks of their cycles. The warm weather may account for the large numbers of Mourning Doves. The increase in Starling population is reflected in record count numbers.

The number of species found on a count continues to be roughly a function of the number of party hours spent on the count subject, of course, to weather, area of count and the ability of the observers on the count. A plot of species against time shows an abrupt rise in species number followed by a gradual reduction in slope. However, there seems to be no indication that this slope ever becomes zero. Five years of counts at several localities on the edge of the plains from Colorado Springs north reveal that in a little over 1,000 party hours 137 species were found. This gives insight into some of the rarer classes of birds since it should include all of the species of 8th magnitude, about 7/8 of 9th magnitude birds, 5/8 of 10th, 3/8 of 11th, 22% of 12th, 1/8 of 13th, as well as 1/16 of 14th magnitude birds (magnitude is an attempt to quantify observability of birds. A 10th magnitude bird is seen on the average once in 2^{10} or 1024 hours). By the same token 1/8 of the 9th magnitude species, 3/8 of the 10th, 5/8 of 11th, 78% of 12th, and 7/8 of the 13th magnitude species have not been observed on Christmas counts in this area for the last five years. There is some evidence to suggest that each of these magnitudes contains about 16 species of birds. If this is correct, we are missing about 46 species of 13th or less magnitude. In order to be sure we find all of these, however, we shall have to spend about 32 times as much time as we have so far or at the present rate about 155 years more.

We shall, however, add a few of these each year. Among those species to be expected are: Common Loon; Horned, Eared, and Red-necked Grebes; White Pelican; American Bittern; White-fronted Goose; Black Duck; Old Squaw; Barrow's Goldeneye; White-winged Scoter; Blue Grouse; Virginia Rail; Snowy, Burrowing, and Saw-whet Owls; Red-bellied, Red-headed, and Three-toed Woodpeckers; Say's Phoebe; House and Bewick's Wrens; Catbird; Hermit Thrush; Sprague's Pipit; Bohemian Waxwing; Orange-crowned, Audubon's, and Palm Warblers; Yellow-headed Blackbird; Crow Blackbird; Brown-capped Rosy Finch; Brown Towhee; Savannah Sparrow; Snow Bunting.

The following abbreviations are used in the Christmas Count Chart to designate the city or locality where the count was made: Boulder - Bldr, Colorado Springs - Col Spg, Durango - Dur, Ft. Collins - Ft. Coll, Gunnison - Gnsn, Idaho Springs - Id Sp, Jefferson County - Jeff Co, Lyons - Lyns, Rocky Mountain National Park - RMNP, Cheyenne - Chey.

Name of Bird	Bldr	Col Spg	Crook	Dur	Ft. Coll	Fow ler	Gn sn	Id Sp	Jeff Co	Long- mont	Love- land	Lyns	Pao nia	RM NP	Chey
Gt.Bl.Heron		1		1	2				1	2		1			
Bl.Cr.Nt.Heron										1					
Can.Goose	23					37			290						12
Mallard	7051	463	33000	54	1186	2000	9		1585	15350	10158	1409			21
Gadwall	3			9		2			32						
Am.Widgeon	8	1							17						
Pintail	68	5							9	1	11	15			
Gr.Wing.Teal	5	10		1	2				8	100					
Wood Duck									1						
Ring-Neck Duck	1			7											
Am.Goldeneye	15		1	92			23		11	1	6	3	3	10	
Ruddy Duck						2			4						
H. Merganser									1						
Am. Merganser	4		4	7			5		100	10					
Red Br.Merganser				1											
Goshawk									1					1	
Sh.Shin Hawk		2		2					1				1		
Cooper's Hawk				1											
Red-tailed Hawk	9	6		3	4	4			9	4	3		1	2	
Swainson's Hawk					1										
Rough-Leg Hawk	10	5	2		3	3			6	12	2				5
Fer. Hawk		1								1					
Golden Eagle		5		1			1		3		2		1	1	1
Bald Eagle		1			1	2			1	2					
Marsh Hawk	2	4	2	2	1	4			6	4	1				1
Prairie Falcon			1			1			2						
Pigeon Hawk		2	1		1	1									
Sparrow Hawk	2	7		8	1	28			4	6		1			
Scaled Quail		2													
Pheasant	17	5	4	1	6				26	21	2	4	7		
Coot									75						
Killdeer	11	19			5		1		12	12	3	5			
Snipe	3	2	1		1				1	4		1			
Herring Gull	8								4	17					
Ring-bill Gull	2								20		1				
Unid. Gulls												44			
Mourning Dove						2			49	29		6			
Screech Owl	3								1						
Horned Owl	1	4	4		2	1			3		1				
Long-eared Owl									4						
Short-eared Owl			1						4		1				
Kingfisher	3	1	3	2	2				4	3	1	7	1		
Yellow-sh.Flicker						1									
Red-sh. Flicker	56	93	1	11	56	18			83	78	23	18	29		13
Lewis Woodpecker	2	2		6	6	11			1	14	2		10		
Red-bellied Wood.			1												
Hairy Woodpecker	1	13		1	7		1	1	2	3	3	3	1	1	1
Downy Woodpecker	2	23	4	1	4	1	2		14	8		5			1
Three-toed Wood.								2							
Horned Lark	75	115	75		3	12000	12		25	42				1	2033

Name of Bird	Bldr	Col Spg	Crook	Dur	Ft. Coll	Fow ler	Gn sn	Id Sp	Jeff Co.	Long mont	Love land	Lyns	Pao nia	RM NP	Chey
Gray Jay								6							
Blue Jay					5										
Stellar's Jay	120	275		1	22			50	74	2	6	26	9	28	
Scrub Jay		108		13					23				4		
Magpie	133	364	15	158	116	69	32	29	384	221	71	38	38	6	25
Raven		1		6				5	6	1				1	
Crow	5	70	3	1	3				242	965					
Pinyon Jay		5		25											
Nutcracker	9	3			10			22	30					3	
Bl.Cap.Chickadee	18	75	29	19	18		1	6	61	21	4	11	7	12	
Mountain Chickadee	2	50		1	3		6	95	36			2		82	
Plain Titmouse													8		
Bushtit		48		10	6						21				
Wh-Br.Nuthatch	2	9		1				2	4	1			6	5	
Red-br.Nuthatch	2	28			6		2	1	22					31	
Pygmy Nuthatch	5	60						1	61		1	12		39	
Brown Creeper		8			1			1	2	1			1	15	
Dipper	1	1		8			3	2	4	1	5	21		3	
Winter Wren		1													
Bewick's Wren													1		
Long-bill Marsh Wren									1						
Canyon Wren	2	3			8				15		5	2	1	1	
Rock Wren	1				3										
Mockingbird		1							1		1				
Robin	88	94		2	13			3	167			50	69	10	3
West.Bluebird													4		
Mtn. Bluebird		4		1									47		
Solitaire	26	41		3	4			42	52		4	11	6	26	
Gold Cr.Kinglet	5	18					3	3			1			4	
Bohemian Waxwing															2
Cedar Waxwing	20	28							2			6			
Gray Shrike	3	5			4	2	1	4	8	4		1	4		1
Loggerhead Shrike	1	2		1					1						
Starling	151	244	1	352	349	96	20		624	220	9	29			98
House Sparrow	238	565	30	53	281	66	26		94	427	22	28	10		138
West.Meadowlark	69	64	11	14	15	68			131	115	1	7			
Redwing	1420	777	7	560	535		2		2086	2398	188	198	147		
Brewer's Blackbd.		83							14	56					
Evening Grosbeak	10	63			71			20	220	51		17	6		25
Cassin's Finch	5	281			150			2	9			18		20	
House Finch	146	241			39	36			136	78	26	7	119		4
Pine Grosbeak								2							4
Gr.Cr.Rosy Finch							1		54						
Bl.Rosy Finch									6						
Siskin	313	130	4	2	110			4	693			1	1		2
Am. Goldfinch	135	8	15	3	4	3			49	1		14	107		
Red Crossbill		4					5	50	58	1		3		18	
Gr.Tailed Towhee												1			
Spotted Towhee	5	38		5	1				17		1		25		
Baird's Sparrow					1										
Rufous Cr. Sparrow		14													

Name of Bird	Bldr	Col Spg	Crook	Dur	Ft Coll	Fow ler	Gn sn	Id Sp	Jeff Co	Long- mont	Love- land	Lyons	Pao nia	RM NP	Chey
Wh. Winged Junco		25	1		4				35	1		14		3	1
Slate Color Junco	3	13	53		9	9		9	39	13	3	5		4	
Oregon Juncos	227	793	60	108	128	17	1	31	466	115	135	144	56	64	86
Gr. Head Juncos	15	141	2	5	3			45	270	2	4	18	74	21	
Tree Sparrow	479	506	226	4	71	100			1242	360	35	18			18
Chipping Sparrow		23	3							1					
Harris's Sparrow	2								2						
White Cr. Sparrow	8	193		6	77	350			241	307	22	12	41		
Wh. Throat Sparrow	2					2									
Fox Sparrow									1						
Swamp Sparrow									1						
Song Sparrow	41	48	6	7	16				159	76	13	9	60		
Lapland Longspur		2													22
No. of Species	62	72	32	47	54	30	21	27	83	50	38	43	35	27	23
No. of Party Hours	26	61	6	9½	19	8½	10	32	72	27	10½	9	8	17	10
No. of Parties	3	11	2	1	3	1	1	3	8	3	1	1	1	2	1
No. of Observers	13	25	3	2	5	2	1	10	22	8	2	1	2	3	7
Individual Totals	6640		1470		5036		451		21175			2255	412		
	11187		33700		3391		176		10325		10835		1039		2517
Day of Month	31	26	26	26	25	24	24	2	26	30	24	26	29	1	?

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FIELD TRIP REPORT

Ten people attended the trip to Welby and the South Platte valley, Saturday, January 14, led by Ruth Wheeler. Twenty species of birds were seen, of which Red-winged Blackbirds were most numerous, with some Brewer's Blackbirds. Hawks seen were Rough-legged, Marsh and two Sparrow Hawks.

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(Correction: The second line of last month's Weldona report, page 28, should read "..... left about two inches of moisture for the week or ten days" - not "snow.")

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"GUIDE TO THE WINTER BIRDS OF COLORADO"

The University of Colorado Museum has recently published "Guide to the Winter Birds of Colorado", by Richard G. Beidleman. This well-illustrated publication contains information on bird-finding, habitats, an identification key, description and habits of about 115 species of winter birds, a distributional check list, description of some good birding areas and a glossary of scientific names. It can be obtained from Hugo G. Rodeck, Director, University of Colorado Museum, Boulder, for $1.00, plus 5¢ postage.

BIRDS OF THE MONTH

by Donald M. Thatcher

January 17, 1956 -- The recent three weeks of mild, dry weather have probably had little, if any, effect on the bird life of this region, but the preceding prolonged cold spell, which froze most open water, apparently drove many species of water birds farther south, as evidenced by the absence or small numbers of many in the Christmas Counts. The Counts and numerous other reports indicate that many species, especially of land birds, are occurring in considerably different numbers from those of last winter. The following species are conspicuously more abundant in eastern Colorado than they were a year ago (those most noticeably different are underlined): Mallard, Rough-legged Hawk, Bald Eagle, Mourning Dove, Long-eared Owl, Red-shafted Flicker (frequently reported in groups of five or more), Lewis's Woodpecker, Clark's Nutcracker (in foothills), Red-breasted Nuthatch, Robin, Townsend's Solitaire, Gray Shrike, Loggerhead Shrike, Cedar Waxwing, Common Starling, Red-winged Blackbird, Evening Grosbeak, Cassin's Finch, Pine Grosbeak (none last year, now scarce), Pine Siskin, Red Crossbill (none last year), Spotted Towhee, White-crowned Sparrow and Song Sparrow. The Robin and Townsend's Solitaire are few in number at Durango, where they were unusually plentiful a year ago (O. Reames). Species that have decreased noticeably include: Common (Wilson's) Snipe, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, House Sparrow, Western Meadowlark and White-winged and Slate-colored Juncos.

Probably the most unusual occurrences are those of the wintering Mockingbirds, found on three Christmas Counts, at Denver (Morrison), Loveland and Colorado Springs (apparently the first Colorado Christmas Count records), also at Cheyenne, Wyoming, December 2 and between Dec. 24 and Jan. 1 (Mrs. R. D. Hanesworth) and at Waterton, Colo., Jan. 7, during a bird trip by the Colorado Mountain Club.

An unusually heavy seed-crop of the Douglas Fir in the Foothills (observed at Genesee Mountain) is attracting numbers of Red Crossbills, Pine Siskins, Red-breasted and Pygmy Nuthatches and Mountain Chickadees; under many trees the ground is strewn with cones dropped by the crossbills. Another interesting concentration was of a mixed flock of about twenty of the two small nuthatches and Mountain Chickadees, eating snow at a four-square-foot patch, the only remnant of the November fall and apparently the only moisture in an extensive area, Jan. 15, on the north slope of Genesee Mountain.

Following are a number of interesting occurrences, including a few belated summer and fall records. Several other unusual records are included in the report of the Christmas Counts. In addition to the Mockingbird, these species are believed to be new to Colorado Christmas Counts: Black-crowned Night Heron, Red-bellied Woodpecker, and Baird's Sparrow. The Western Bluebird has been reported previously only once or twice. Swainson's Hawk and Common Bushtit, at Fort Collins, are especially unusual so far north. Contributors: H. B. Allsebrook, Richard Beidleman, Mrs. Venola Bevans, John Chapin, Catherine Crone, John & Margaret Douglass, Mrs. Gene Hendricks, Mrs. John Lett, Leonard Licht, L. Jack Lyon, Thompson Marsh, Ben Moore, Oppie Reames, Lt. Col. & Mrs. C. H. Snyder, D. M. Thatcher and John R. Olive.

Eared Grebe - 1 12/2 SE Denver (TM)
Pied-billed Grebe - 2 1/8 Boulder (CC,VB)
Great Blue Heron - 1 12/11 Fowler (GH)
Turkey Vulture - 1 12/18 Boulder (CC)
Goshawk - 1 1/14,15 feeding on Cottontail Rabbit, Genesee Mountain (DT,BM)
Harlan's Hawk - 1 12/4 near SW Denver (JC,LL)
Broad-winged Hawk - 1 June 5 Boulder (VB,HBA)
Bald Eagle - 2 (1 adult, 1 immature) near Windsor 12/20,30 (JD,MD)
Peregrine Falcon - 1 12/19 betw. Ft. Collins - Loveland (JD,MD); soon on 4 days betw. 12/7 & 23, NE Colorado (LJL)

Mourning Dove - 2 12/7 Platteville (Mrs. JL); 18 12/21 near Loveland (JD,MD)
Yellow-shafted Flicker - 1 11/26 SE Denver (TM)
Flicker hybrid - apparently same individual described in CBN, vol. 2, no. 10 (seen 7/24,29/55) at same place, 12/31/55 & 1/2/56, NW Denver (DT)
Yellow-belliod Common Sapsucker - imm. female, no red 12/27 SE Denver (TM)
Say's Phoebe - daily 12/1-23 Durango (OR)
Blue Jay - 4 1/8 Platteville (Mrs. JL)
Clark's Nutcracker - 50 or more (2 flocks) 1/4 Genesee Mt. (DT)
Red-breasted Nuthatch 1 12/10 SE Denver (TM)
Am. Dipper - 1 12/17,29 Cherry Creek, SE Denver (TM)
Rock Wren - 1 12/23 Red Rocks Park (DT)
Mountain Bluebird - 4 12/21 Olney Springs (GH)
Water Pipit - 1 12/21 Loveland (JD,MD); 2 12/21 SE Denver (TM)
Cedar Waxwing - 20 12/17, 10 12/20 SE Denver (TM)
Black and White Warbler - 1 found dead after storm 12/24 Fort Collins (JRQ)
Magnolia Warbler - 2 Aug. 20, Cameron Pass, Colo. near Wyoming line; 12 10/9 Cheyenne, Wyo. (also on 3 dates, Sept.- Oct., 1954) (Snyders)*
Brewer's Blackbird - many with large flock of Redwings 12/9 Platteville (Mrs. JL)
Sage Sparrow - 1 (or 3) 10/25 Platteville (Mrs. JL)
Harris's Sparrow - 1 12/4 near SW Denver (JC,LL)

* According to Bent's "Life Histories of North American Wood Warblers", the Magnolia Warbler breeds west to western British Columbia. There are one Oregon and eight California records, as well as a few from Colorado.

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WELDONA NOTES

By Howard Rollin

January 8, 1956 - The past month saw the continuation of the pleasant weather, marked by almost no snow and no blizzards, moderate cold spells and only a few windy days. There is little to report of bird news, except the occurrence of a Bald Eagle, December 18, the first seen here in two years; and a Short-eared Owl, January 4. The latter is a year-round resident here and has been seen in every month of the year over the past twenty years; it favors the tall grass and sage in the sand hills. The enormous flocks of Horned Larks have dispersed and only small flocks of 6 to 30 are seen now. The flocks of Lapland Longspurs also have disappeared, and only a few are seen with the Larks. Tree Sparrows are about in various numbers and the three Oregon Juncos (Pink-sided, Shufeldt's and Montana) and the White-winged Junco remain about, but only one or two of each kind. Western Meadowlarks are rare this winter and are seen only occasionally in groups of three or four. Starlings come and go, a few, but are abundant at Fort Morgan. Red-winged Blackbirds stray in occasionally; they are common farther south. Magpies are fairly common. Golden Eagles are as frequent as before, one to three are seen most days.

Mallard Duck - 25 12/28, the first seen after they were so common until late November
Rough-legged Hawk - common
Ferruginous Hawk - 1 12/27, rare
Marsh Hawk - uncommon
Prairie Falcon - 1 12/8, 3 12/12 (second and third records for this fall)
Sparrow Hawk - 2 12/12, rare
Gray Shrike - still here, feeding on mice about the stacks. These shrikes are very large and should not be confused with the Loggerhead at all. Perhaps these are better fed than in some other places, where they can be compared with the Loggerhead as to size. Also, the immatures appear to be larger than the adults.

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1956

January
24 (Tues.) 7 PM Discussion session on Ecology
8 PM Regular meeting. Illustrated talk on "Birds of Grand Canyon" by Edwin D. McKee, former Park Naturalist
Bird Room, Denver Museum of Natural History
(Please use north (employees') entrance)

29 (Sun.) 8 AM Field Trip to Sedalia and vicinity. John Chapin, leader (SK6-2200)
Meet 1/2 block west of Broadway on Alameda (Transp. 50¢)

February
11 (Sat.) 10 AM Field Trip to Hughes Ranch. Sadie Morrison, leader (MA3-0840)
Meet at Speer & Downing. Bring lunch. (Transp. 50¢)
26 (Sun.) 7:30 AM Field Trip to Georgetown (Rosy Finches, perhaps). Donald Thatcher, leader (GL5-7479). Meet at Main Library (Civic Center). Bring lunch if desired. (Transp. 75¢)
28 (Tues.) 7 PM Ecology discussion
8 PM Regular meeting

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MUSEUM LECTURE PROGRAM

The Bird Club is reminded of the winter lecture program at Phipps Auditorium, Denver Museum of Natural History, on Sundays at 2:30 and 4:30 PM and Mondays at 6:30 and 8:30 PM. Balcony and unclaimed main floor seats are free to the public.

January 22-23	Crossroads of Man	Alfred Wolff
January 29-30	Cuba	Hal Linker
February 5-6	Stepping Stones to Australia	Alfred M. Bailey
February 12-13	Romantic Spain and Morocco	Robert F. Barnard
February 19-20	North to The Yukon	Cleveland P. Grant
February 26-27	The Soul of Mexico	Romain Wilhelmsen
March 4-5	Tahiti	Earl B. Brink
March 11-12	Penguin Summer	Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr.
March 18-19	Virginia Now and Then	Winifred Walker
March 25-26	Across Tropical Africa	Len Stuttman

There is also the Audubon "Nature on the Screen" series, free to the public, at 8 PM, as follows:

January 20	A Trip to Newfoundland	Dick Bird
February 2	Stepping Stones to Australia	Alfred M. Bailey
February 21	American Birds and Big Game	Cleveland P. Grant
March 9	Growing Feathers	Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr.

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Answers to Last Month's O. Q.

1. Grebes and coots. 2. Phalaropes. 3. Hawks.
4. Highest to lowest - Gray Jay, Steller's, Scrub, Blue.
5. Argentina. 6. Peru.
7. Buteo, hawks; Empidonax, tyrant flycatchers; Accipiter, hawks; Leucosticte, finches; Anatidae, swans, geese, ducks; Corvidae, crows and jays; Passeres, perching birds or "song birds"; Dendroica, wood warblers.
8. Plover, Killdeer; sandpiper, Common Snipe; grebe, Pied-billed; woodpecker, Red-shafted Flicker; thrush, Robin and Solitaire; kinglet, Golden-crowned; longspur, Lapland.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Hopkins, Mr. Richard C. - 3485 Martin Drive, Boulder (Sub.).

Sullivan, Mrs. Berene - Rt. 2, Box 272, Boulder (Sub.)

ADDRESSES

Add, November list:
Winters, Miss Eileen - Apt. 18, 1203 Emerson St. (18) . . . . . TA 5-3707

Change address:
Cummins, Mr. Buryl - 7550 Hoover Avenue, St. Louis 17, Missouri
Hendricks, Mrs. Philip - P. O. Box 1657, e/o Phillips Petroleum Co., Billings, Montana
Kingery, 2/Lt. Hugh - Officers Quarters, Ent Air Force Base, Box 1092, Colorado Springs
Menzel, Mr. Karl - SR 4869763, Co. 745, Bn. 102, Reg. 10, Recruit Training Command, U. S. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois

Miss Ruth Wheeler
3340 W. 37th Ave.
Denver 11, Colo.

Colorado Bird Club
2916 Perry St.
Denver 12, Colo.

COLORADO BIRD NOTES

Bulletin of the Colorado Bird Club

Vol. 3 No. 6 February 1956

THE PIED-BILLED GREBE

by Margaret M. Douglass

When we were kids, we recognized three kinds of water birds -- ducks, mud hens, and hell-divers. Ducks, in this rudimentary taxonomy, were the most obvious. They were shaped like the white ones -- only smaller; they quacked; and they were good to eat after you took the feathers off. We ate them only once and were much amazed at the color and quantity of the feathers. Mud hens weren't good to eat. They had big white bills, kicked the water a lot when they wanted to fly, and made all kinds of funny noises. They were obviously characters, and grown-ups thought they were pretty silly. But the hell-divers commanded more respect. They didn't look like much -- little and brown with big bills -- and you couldn't eat them. But they could sink out of sight like a submarine, dive like the seals in the zoo, and -- as the hired man told us while he irrigated our apple trees -- if you shot at them they'd go down to the bottom of the pond before the bullet came and never come back up. They were, in short, creatures of magic and mystery -- like snakes, only not scary.

Now, having spent many years in a world where not all ducks quack and where Mud Hens are called Coots and have a Latin binomial besides, I am still fascinated by the little Hell-diver, the Pied-billed Grebe. Occasionally he is still a mystery.

We watched one struggling with a fish in Warren Lake near Ft. Collins this fall. The fish was about nine inches long and quite thick besides. Several times the grebe went down with his prize, bobbed up shaking furiously, and went down again. Finally he succeeded in keeping the fish out of the water, but swallowing it presented another problem. After six or eight shifts he got it headed down his throat. Then he stretched out his neck to swallow his flapping meal. He'd stretch and swallow and stretch again until he looked quite misshapen. After about five minutes the fish went down, and the little Pied-bill swam slowly off to join his fellows. I'm still mystified as to how all that fish went in.

The Pied-bill (Podilymbus podiceps) is our most common member of the grebe tribe. All the grebes are aquatic, and they are all fairly similar. They belong to the order Colymbiformes and the family Colymbidae. The family name comes from a Greek word, "kolymbos", which means a diving bird -- and divers they surely are. Formerly the grebes and their cousins, the loons, were grouped into a single order, the Pygopodes or "rump-footed ones". (The name refers to the position of the legs with reference to the rest of the body.) Grebes are also related to the auks, murres, and puffins. The loons and grebes are the most primitive of our living birds, that is to say, they are most closely akin to the reptiles from which birds evolved ages ago. The family, Colymbidae, contains twenty-five species, living in every part of the world.

There are five species of grebes which occur in Colorado: Red-necked, Horned, Eared, Western, and Pied-billed. These five range over much of the United States, although the Western and the Eared don't get very far east. In Texas the Mexican or Least Grebe is found, also, and in South America there are several grebes. The Pied-

billed, the Western, and the Mexican Grebes all get down there. There is a flightless grebe (Centropelma micropterum) in Lake Titicaca and a big fellow (Podilymbus gigas) which is confined to Lake Atitlan, Guatemala. Several species occur from Peru to the Falklands. Europe has five species of grebes including the well-known little Grebe or Dabchick (Poliocephalus ruficollis), the great Crested Grebe (Colymbus cristata), and the Red-necked, the Horned or Slavonian and the Eared Grebes. And there are four species which occur in Australia, New Zealand, the Malays, and Madagascar.

Pied-bills are found in most of North and South America where suitable living quarters can be had. They nest from Central Canada south to Argentina and Chile, and there are casual records from Hudson Bay, Bermuda, Cape Horn, and the Straits of Magellan. Birds breeding in the West Indies are sometimes separated as a different subspecies; but since they are quite like other Pied-bills, the validity of the separation is questionable. The Pied-bill winters in the South and comes north soon after the ice has broken up -- arriving in Colorado from late March through May. They nest throughout the State, especially in the San Luis Valley. The fall migration proceeds slowly through September and October as the grebes linger on inland ponds and streams in family groups, pairs, or singly. Often they will spend quite a while in a favorite spot and then pass on. Occasionally they linger into November. We saw one swimming in Lake Loveland on the twenty-fifth of November last year. He probably had a chilly trip south.

All grebes spend most of their time in the water. There they are marvels of efficiency and grace as they swim and dive and maneuver. On land they are grotesquely awkward; and although many of them fly surprisingly well, they do not take to the air readily, preferring to dive or hide for protection. Anatomically a grebe is well adapted to his environment. His body is flatter than that of a duck and his neck is long and slender. His legs are placed far back on the body with the tibia or drumstick buried beneath the skin and feathers, and the heel joint close to the tail. This arrangement facilitates diving, but because of it the grebes sit or stand in an almost perpendicular position; they stand like penguins. They also walk very awkwardly. Sometimes on land they progress by sliding on their bellies in the manner of seals and penguins. The grebe's feet aren't webbed. Instead they are provided with broad lobes of skin. The nails are broad and flat like human toenails. The shank bones are flattened from side to side to reduce their water resistance. The wings are short and the tail very small; there aren't any stiffened tail feathers. When a grebe flies, it extends its feet back to serve as a rudder as the tail would in another bird. The grebe's feathers are soft, very thick, and rather hair-like. When the bird has them dressed he is quite waterproof. Unfortunately, these thick, beautiful feathers have also often been his undoing; for a while the breast feathers were much used for decorating hats. Most of the grebes also have a nuptial attire of fancy crests and ruffs.

But the Pied-bill is the Plain Jane of the family. In the spring he (or she, for they are both alike) is gray-brown with the darkest color on the top of the head and back. He has a black throat-patch and a black spot on his thick, rounded, bluish-white bill. To the field observer he appears to have no crests. Nevertheless, a captive adult Pied-bill, when disturbed, raised up small crests on the sides of his head like the crests of a Western or Red-necked grebe but much smaller. Apparently pied-bills reserve their modest adornments for other grebes -- after all it is another grebe, and not a gawky ornithologist, who can't even build a decent nest, that really matters.

The winter Pied-bill is plainer and browner. He usually lacks the black throat-patch, but some birds show traces of the black throat in the fall or have it well developed but partially concealed by the white tips of the throat feathers. The bill is now dull yellow, and it lacks the black band. Nevertheless, the Pied-bill can still be distinguished from other grebes by the shape of the bill -- all the others have slender bills -- and by the lack of definite white patches on the wings.

A downy young Pied-bill is prettily and strikingly marked. It is mainly glossy black above with longitudinal stripes of grayish white on the back and neck. The crown of the head is black and more or less variegated with burnt umber; there is a triangular bare space on the top of the head, two white superciliary lines meeting on the forehead, and two more white stripes above them. The sides of the neck and throat are variegated black and white; the sides of the body, dusky; and the under-parts white.

The bird is half-grown before real plumage appears and nearly full-grown before the down is entirely gone. Although adult plumage is usually acquired the first year, some young keep black and white head stripes until late in October. The first winter plumage is brown with conspicuous bright russet on the neck, breast, and flanks. The black throat and black band on the bill are acquired the next spring just before the breeding season.

Like all the other grebes the Pied-bill is at home only in the water. He prefers fresh water; but occasionally when his favorite resorts are ice-bound, he will resort to the tidal creeks and estuaries. He gets his dinner from the streams and ponds. Here he finds the small fish, snails, frogs, tadpoles, crawfish, aquatic worms, leeches, and water insects on which he thrives. Sometimes he also eats seeds and the soft parts of aquatic plants, but he isn't very fond of vegetables. He also swallows his own feathers. The high frequency with which balls of feathers are found in grebes' stomachs indicates they probably serve some physiologic function, but as yet nobody knows why the grebe nibbles his overcoat. Maybe crawdads are better with feather sauce. The fish he eats (and twenty-five per cent of his diet is fish) are usually small, unimportant species and fry. He probably eats many more harmful animals than useful ones; and unless he chooses to frequent the flesh-pots of a fish hatchery, the Pied-bill is a harmless little fellow.

If the pond is his pantry, it is also the Pied-bill's nursery. After the grebes reach their summer homes in sloughs and along the reedy marshes and on the shores of shallow lakes and sluggish streams, the courtship ritual begins. While the mating displays of the Pied-bill aren't as spectacular as the performances of some of the other grebes, they are strange and interesting. Dr. Alexander Wetmore has given a description of this ritual:

> "A pair nesting quietly in open water sometimes dived and then came up to splatter off for a hundred feet or so, across the surface with flapping wings with the male in pursuit of the female and about ten feet behind. At the close of this the male gave a series of loud, sonorous calls. Frequently he nipped off a length of tule stem twelve or fifteen inches long, holding it by one end in his bill, while he swam about or even dived. Again a pair swam toward one another with heads and necks held erect. When about a foot apart they stopped and then swung half around and presented their tails to one another. At the same time the male held his wing tips slightly raised, the feathers of his back elevated and the sides of his neck puffed out while both birds turned the head alertly from side to side, though seemingly they regarded some distant object rather than each other. In a second or

two they swung back, facing one another again, continued this turning half around and then back, as though pivoted in one spot, at ten- or fifteen-second intervals for nearly ten minutes. The male was more regular in turning than the female and she was frequently out of time with him. Finally the female lowered her head while the male continued to display a few seconds longer, after which the two swam back into the shelter of the rushes."

Such displays are frequent in courting season. The grebe may even display under water. And it is in courting season that the grebes are heard calling. Frequently the male utters soft cooing notes, loud cuckoo-like calls, and odd whinnying outcries. He also presents his intended mate with pieces of nesting material. Apparently an association occurs between the two pleasurable activities -- courtship and nest building.

The nesting site varies with locality, but it is usually in the shallow margins of a lake or slough in water from one to three feet deep. As a rule, the nest is surrounded by cattails, rushes, and other aquatic vegetation. Pied-bills don't nest in colonies; usually there are only a few pairs in any given area. There may also be other nesting water birds nearby. In North Dakota, the Pied-bill nested with Canvasbacks, Redheads, Ruddy Ducks, and Coots; and in the San Luis Valley of Colorado the grebes were found near a variety of other waterfowl.

The base of the nest is a platform of decaying vegetable matter -- often enough to fill a bushel basket. On top of this trash pile a smaller, neater, second story is built which extends a few inches above the water. Often it is plastered together with green pond scum. The whole structure is usually anchored to surrounding water plants, but it may be free-floating -- a veritable houseboat. The eggs are laid in a shallow cavity in the upper part of the nest. Often they are partly buried in the soft, wet nest material.

The eggs are a pale bluish-green when they are laid, but they soon become stained tan from the decaying vegetable material which surrounds them. They are usually smooth, but occasionally dotted with small raised lumps. There are five to seven in an ordinary set, but sometimes as few as three or as many as ten. They are almost two inches long. One is laid every day until the set is completed.

Incubation takes twenty-three or twenty-four days. Both parents help with the job. They probably sit on the nest regularly, but slip away at the first sign of an intruder. Often they carefully cover the eggs before they leave. The heat generated by the decaying vegetation in which they are imbedded may help keep the eggs warm; however, it is doubtful that the parents ever leave them alone for very long.

The youngsters, as soon as they are hatched, prove true to all their family traditions. They swim and dive expertly without being taught, and they can hide with only their bills protruding above the water almost as soon as they leave the nest. Both parents care for the chicks. The courtship antics which they go through during the whole nesting cycle probably serve as a bond to keep the parents together while rearing their family. Either father or mother is usually with the chicks. Often the adult carries the little ones on his back while he swims around the sloughs. If the old bird dives, the chicks hold on all the way down and come up still in the saddle and none the worse for the ducking. Occasionally a threatened grebe will dive with a chick clasped under its wing and thus carry the baby to safety.

Diving is the grebe's usual method of escape. At the approach of danger down he goes. He swims under water to a safe hiding place or surfaces with only his bill

protruding. Such tactics probably provide little protection for a baby grebe threatened by an aquatic enemy such as a muskrat, pickerel, snapping turtle, or large frog; but it is an effective defense from marauding Bald Eagles or from man. Many a hunter has been completely mystified by the grebe's apparent disappearance in open water; the grebe is the Water Witch, the Hell-diver; he goes down, but he doesn't come up again. Actually, he is lurking nearby waiting for the all clear signal.

Pied-bills are pretty exclusive. They usually stay in pairs or family parties during the breeding season; and although Chapman saw groups of one hundred or more cruising on the open waters of Heron Lake, Minnesota, in early October, even in migration such flocks are rare. On small bodies of water the grebes mingle with other water fowl, but they will almost always separate from the ducks when the flocks are frightened. Occasionally, however, they seem to delight in pestering the ducks. Once I watched a band of five Pied-bills on Boyd Lake near Loveland, Colorado. They were feeding in the shallows when they spotted a stately file of Mallard and Pintail drakes swimming slowly toward shore. The Pied-bills proceeded to play havoc with the procession. They would swim rapidly toward the file of ducks, dive beneath them just in time to avoid a broadside collision, and then pop up on the other side. Occasionally one would almost upset a dignified Mallard. But the ducks ignored them completely.

Then a Peregrine stooped down -- apparently out of nowhere. He struck at one of the Mallards and missed. The ducks flew off in a tumult of splashing and quacking. When I looked again for the Pied-bills, they were gone; I couldn't see a bird along the lake shore. There probably were bills sticking up among the rushes, but as far as I was concerned the Hell-divers might as well have been at the bottom of the lake. Even yet they instill me with a sense of awe and mystery.

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MOUNTAIN PLOVER STUDY

We have received a request for information on the Mountain Plover (Eupoda montana) from Mr. H. Charles Laun, of the Zoology Department, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming, who is making a life history study of that species. Desired data are: locations, dates (month and year), whether the bird was common, uncommon or rare and nesting, and observer's name. Information may be sent to Mr. Laun at above address or to Donald Thatcher, 2916 Perry Street, Denver.

WINTER BIRD POPULATION STUDIES

by Donald M. Thatcher

The three winter bird population studies conducted by the writer and others in Genesee Mountain Park and described in COLORADO BIRD NOTES for February 1954 and 1955 have been repeated once more, with some interesting results. These studies are made primarily as part of the nation-wide project of the National Audubon Society and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the results of which are published annually in the June "Audubon Field Notes".

Two of the three areas are adjacent, of twenty acres each, on the north slope of Genesee Mountain, at elevations of approximately 7900 to 8200 feet above sea level. One is of nearly pure Lodgepole Pine, representative of the lower fringe of the Canadian life zone and the other is of nearly pure Douglas Fir, representative of the upper limit of the Transition life zone. Both stands are about 95 years of age, except a few scattered considerably older Douglas Fir and Ponderosa Pine. The third area of 67 acres is of all-aged, open Ponderosa Pine forests, with understory of Mountain Mahogany and Squaw Currant, about 1½ miles west of the other two areas, elevation 7700 to 7950 feet, and typical of the greater part of the Transition life zone in the upper foothills. The current season was the sixth of study for the two smaller areas and the fifth for the Ponderosa Pine.

Each area was covered six times during January and early February, and all birds seen or heard on each trip were recorded on a copy of a map of the area. Care was taken to cover each area thoroughly on each trip and to avoid, as much as possible, recording the same birds more than once, the object being to determine the number and species of birds present at one time on the whole area.

The accompanying tables summarize the bird populations of the three areas, calculated to the nearest whole number per 100 acres. (A plus (+) indicates a population of less than ½ bird per 100 acres.) To show the year-to-year variations in species and in numbers, the results of the five or six seasons studied are included, plus an average for all years for each area. Arrangement of species is in the order of average abundance for the several years.

Analysis of the tables shows a number of interesting facts about the bird population of the three habitats. In the Ponderosa Pine, only 5 species of the total of 25 occurred all 5 years; and in Lodgepole Pine, 2 of 19 and Douglas Fir, 5 of 21 in 6 years. The Mountain Chickadee was the only species observed all 5 or 6 years in all three areas.

In 1951-52, the outstanding feature was the breeding of the Red Crossbills in the Ponderosa Pine (two nestings in the area, in December and January). The next winter (1952-53) was characterized by the invasion of the Lodgepole Pine and Douglas Fir by the Pygmy Nuthatch, which is usually confined almost entirely to the Ponderosa Pine, apparently because of a poor crop of Ponderosa seed. That year also the total population of all species in the Lodgepole Pine and Douglas Fir habitats increased 3.6 and 3.2 times, respectively, over the populations of the preceding years. In 1953-54, the Ponderosa Pine total population increased, being twice that of the preceding year and also the average for the other four years; the Pygmy Nuthatch increased to more than double its numbers of the two preceding years. 1954-55 saw the Ponderosa Pine total population decrease to 30% of the numbers of the preceding year, and to half as many species; the Pygmy Nuthatch dropped to only 21% of its numbers of 1953-54 and the Crow was unusually abundant.

In 1955-56, there were unusual numbers of Cassin's Finch in the Ponderosa Pine, (a flock of 80 or more was seen February 4), apparently attracted by an unusually abundant crop of Mountain Mahogany seed, without which the total population would have been even lower than that of the year before; Cassin's Finch also occurred the first in all six years in the other two areas. The current season saw an unusual invasion by three species in the Lodgepole Pine and Douglas Fir. The Red-breasted Nuthatch, which had occurred previously only sparsely in 1950-51, this year outnumbered the Mountain Chickadee, and on one trip a careful back-check was made to ascertain that they were not following the counters. Red Crossbills by the dozen and Pine Siskins in flocks of 50 to 100 or more were attracted by the abundant Douglas Fir seed crop; accurate counting of those two species in the treetops was impossible. Crossbills, Siskins, Mountain Chickadees, the three Nuthatches and a Brown Creeper were frequently seen in the same flock. The influx of Crossbills and Siskins increased the population of the Lodgepole Pine and Douglas Fir to 4.6 and 6.2 times, respectively, the average population for those areas of the five preceding years. A Goshawk was seen twice in the Lodgepole-Fir habitats, feeding on cottontail rabbits.

All trips during the six seasons were made by the writer, assisted on several trips by others. Leonard Licht and Benjamin Moore assisted on one trip each in 1956.

Ponderosa Pine Forest

Year	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	5-year Average
No. Trips	7	6	6	6	6	
Pygmy Nuthatch	32	28	67	14	12	31
Mountain Chickadee	14	12	18	8	5	12
Cassin's Finch	---	10	2	---	25	7
White-winged Junco	15	--	14	---	7	7
Steller's Jay	2	2	5	2	2	3
American Crow	--	1	3	10	--	3
White-breasted Nuthatch	5	3	3	2	2	3
Gray-headed Junco	--	1	2	--	5	2
Hairy Woodpecker	1	+	2	--	+	1
American Magpie	1	+	1	1	+	1
Brown Creeper	2	+	--	+	1	1
American Robin	3	--	1	--	--	1
Townsend's Solitaire	2	1	1	--	+	1
Pine Siskin	--	4	--	--	1	1
Red Crossbill	5	--	2	--	+	1
Goshawk	--	--	+	--	--	+
Red-Tailed Hawk	--	--	--	--	+	+
Horned Owl	--	+	--	--	+	+
Common Raven	--	--	1	+	+	+
Clark's Nutcracker	--	2	--	--	+	+
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	--	1	--	--	+
Pine Grosbeak	--	--	+	--	--	+
American Goldfinch	--	+	--	--	--	+
Slate-colored Junco	+	--	--	--	+	+
Oregon Junco	2	--	1	--	+	1
Juncos - unidentified	1	1	1	1	+	1
No. Species	14	15	18	9	19	25
Birds per 100 acres	86	65	125	38	60	76

Year	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	Six-year Average
No. Trips	7	6	6	6	6	6	
Lodgepole Pine Forest							
Mountain Chickadee	19	10	35	20	20	25	22
Pine Siskin	—	—	12	—	—	102	19
Red Crossbill	—	3	—	26	—	48	13
Pygmy Nuthatch	—	—	28	7	8	18	10
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4	—	—	—	—	43	8
Brown Creeper	11	3	8	4	8	2	6
American Magpie	1	4	1	—	1	3	2
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	2	5	4	—	1	2
Gray-headed Junco	—	—	—	7	—	—	2
Clark's Nutcracker	1	—	—	—	—	2	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	—	—	3	1	—	1
Oregon Junco	—	—	—	—	5	—	1
Goshawk	—	—	—	—	—	1	+
Hairy Woodpecker	—	—	—	1	1	—	+
American Crow	—	—	1	—	1	—	+
American Robin	—	—	—	1	—	—	+
Townsend's Solitaire	—	—	—	1	—	—	+
Pine Grosbeak	—	—	—	2	—	—	+
Cassin's Finch	—	—	—	—	—	2	+
Juncos - Unidentified	1	—	—	—	—	1	+
No. Species	8	5	7	11	8	12	19
Birds per 100 acres	39	22	90	76	45	248	87
Douglas Fir Forest							
Pine Siskin	—	—	12	—	—	241	42
Mountain Chickadee	12	14	40	35	18	38	26
Pygmy Nuthatch	—	—	40	6	2	13	10
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	—	—	—	—	44	8
Red Crossbill	—	—	1	9	—	38	8
American Magpie	14	6	2	6	3	2	5
Brown Creeper	5	8	2	10	7	2	5
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	3	6	2	4	3	4
Clark's Nutcracker	—	—	—	—	—	15	2
Golden-crowned Kinglet	4	3	2	4	—	—	2
Gray-headed Junco	—	—	10	—	—	—	2
Hairy Woodpecker	—	3	1	—	—	—	1
Steller's Jay	1	—	1	3	—	—	1
Townsend's Solitaire	—	2	3	1	—	—	1
Cassin's Finch	—	—	—	—	—	3	1
Oregon Junco	—	—	1	—	2	1	1
Goshawk	—	—	—	1	—	1	+
Common Raven	—	—	—	—	1	—	+
American Crow	—	—	1	—	—	—	+
American Goldfinch	—	—	2	—	—	—	+
White-winged Junco	—	—	2	—	—	—	+
Juncos - Unidentified	—	—	—	2	—	—	+
No. Species	7	7	16	11	7	12	21
Birds per 100 acres	38	39	126	79	37	400	120

BIRDS OF THE MONTH

by Donald M Thatcher

February 22, 1956 - There is little to report in the way of bird activity during the past three weeks of cold and snow. The only movement apparent at Denver has been the departure of many ducks, presumably south, with the freezing of the lakes, some of which, as Berkeley Lake, are completely frozen, which is very unusual.

A hybrid goose with the flock of Canada at Bowles Lake is of unusual interest. It arrived about February 1 and was first reported by Douglas Alexander and Larry Crowley; it was still present February 19. It is the size of the large Canadas and the entire body, except neck and tail, is identical with that of the Canada. The tail is brown. The neck is heavier than the Canada's and brown like the back. The head is white except the back part, which, together with the back of the upper neck, is brown, speckled with white. The bill and legs appear to be dull orange and the feet pinkish, like those of adult Snow Goose or Blue Goose. The brown tail suggests Blue rather than Snow Goose.

Following are the highlights of more than 400 reports. Contributors (some of whose reports are not included): Douglas Alexander, Mrs. Venola Bevans, Phyllis Caswell, Catherine Crone, Larry Crowley, John and Margaret Douglass, Hugh Kingery, Ferd Kleinschnitz, Mrs. John Lott, L. Jack Lyon, Thompson Marsh, Sadie Morrison, Donald Thatcher and Blaine Thomas.

Goshawk - 1 1/22 Aspen (HK); 1 1/29, 2/1 Platteville (Mrs. JL)
Bald Eagle - 1 adult 1/1, 2/2 Boulder (LC,DA); 4 (3 adults) 1/14 Boyd Lake (Loveland)(JD,MD); 1 1/21 Longmont (JD,MD); 1 2/11 near Gypsum (Eagle Co.)(HK)
Scaled Quail - 18 1/15 near Waverly (introduced)(JD,MD)
Screech Owl - 1 1/10 SE Denver (TM)
Barred Owl - 1 1/21 near Loveland (JD,MD); 1 2/6 Platteville (Mrs. JL)
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 1 female 1/4,8 SE Denver (TM)
Blue Jay - 4 1/8, 2/1 Platteville (Mrs. JL)
Winter Wren - 1 12/27 near Loveland (JD,MD)
Mockingbird - 1 1/19 Fort Collins (JD)
Eastern Bluebird - 1 2/4 SE Denver (FK)
Yellow-headed Blackbird - 1 male 1/14 Loveland (JD,MD)
Gray-crowned Rosy Finch - betw. 1000 and 1500 in one flock - 1/15 near Granite Canyon, in Wyoming (JD,MD)
Rosy Finches - flock of 185 Gray-crowned (including 20 Hepburn's) and 15 Brown-capped, 1/19 Horseshoe Park (Rocky Mountain National Park)(JD,MD)
Pine Grosbeak - 10 1/22 Aspen; 75-plus 2/11 near Gypsum (HK)
Fox Sparrow - 8 1/28 near Morrison (PC,SM)
White-throated Sparrow - 4 12/27 near Loveland (JD,MD)

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We wish to extend sympathy to Howard Rollins of Weldona whose mother passed away late in January.

More on the Christmas Counts

The list of count participants was inadvertently omitted from the Christmas Count article by John Chapin in last months Colorado Bird Notes. The participants were:

BOULDER. Douglas G. Alexander, Gordon Alexander (compiler), Marion I. Alexander, Leslie M. Baylor, Lawrence D. Crowley, Dominick D'Ostilio, ohn T. Fitch, John N. Hough, Owen A. Knorr, Vera Matthews, Oakleigh Thorne II, Linna L. Weber, William A. Weber (University of Colorado)

COLORADO SPRINGS. Mrs. T. L. Adams, Robert Z. Brown, Mrs. G. L. Catlett, Mrs. Lavinia Curtis, Mrs. Daniel da Cruz, Edna Dessaint, Mrs. Kenneth Ewing, Mrs. L. B. Field, Larry Field, Mary Alice Hamilton, Mrs. Aven Nelson, Kent Nelson, Paul Nesbit, Mr. an Mrs. Frank Sample, Mary Shirer, George Sinton, Mahlon Speers, Robert M. Stabler, Mrs. B. E. Sutton, Mrs. M. M. Thurlow, James H. Turner, Mrs. H. J. Wagner, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Weborbauer.

CROOK. L. Jack Lyon (compiler), R. E. Lamb, H. Robinson.

DURANGO. Thomas J. Frizell, Oppie Reames (compiler)

FORT COLLINS. Paul H. Owen, Richard G. Beidleman (compiler), John and Margaret Douglass, John R. Olive.

FOWLER. Gene Hendricks, and one other.

LONGMONT. Mrs. Carl Collister (compiler), Jay Arnold, Mrs. Nina Stultz, Mrs. John Thielen, Mrs. Fred Fox.

JEFFERSON COUNTY. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bayless, Henry Bell, John L. Chapin (compiler), Ann Condit, Catherine Crone, Lawrence Crowley, Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Dement, John W. Flavin, Jr., Robert E. Glover, Ferd Kleinschnitz, E. L. Licht, Thompson G. Marsh, Edwin D. McKee, Phyllis McRae, Sadie Morrison, B. R. Pfretzschner, Dale Rice, Ranson Stone, Donald M. Thatcher, Blaine Thomas.

IDAHO SPRINGS. Phyrlis Caswell, John L. Chapin (compiler), Ann Condit, John W. Flavin, Jr., Ferd Kleinschnitz, Thompson G. Marsh, Phyllis McRae, Sadie Morrison, Dale Rice, Pearl Sternbeck.

LOVELAND. Margaret and John Douglass.

LYONS. Hugh Kingery.

PAONIA. A. Sydney Hyde and Homer V. Griffin.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK. Richard G. Beidleman (compiler), John and Margaret Douglass.

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FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Seven persons attended the trip to Red Rocks Park, Morrison and vicinity, led by Sadie Morrison, February 11, a beautiful, sunny day, with temperature near freezing and 8-14 inches of snow. A total of thirty-three species were seen, of which the most unusual were Killdeer (2), American Dipper (1), a singing Gray Shrike in immature plumage, Evening Grosbeck (19) and Spotted Towhee (1). Ducks, in addition to many Mallards were Green-winged Teal (7), and one American Merganser. Hawks were Red-tailed, Marsh, Golden Eagle (1 each), 2 Merlins and 6 Kestrels.

The January 29 trip to Sedalia was cancelled because of a severe snow storm.

WELDONA NOTES

by Howard Rollin

Feb. 11, 1956 -- The past month or more has seen little in the way of interest in bird life here. The continued cold and unfavorable weather of the last two weeks or so has held the birds almost static, except for an increase of American Tree Sparrows about the buildings the last few days. Horned Larks remain about the same and can be seen in various-sized flocks about the fields. With them are small numbers of Lapland Longspurs, which appear to be working north at this time, but just how much of a northward movement is hard to determine. The usual year-round resident birds are about in small numbers: Golden Eagle, Marsh Hawk, Horned Owl, Magpie and Western Meadowlark. Pheasants remain very rare, only 2 being seen this winter and those were near Fort Morgan. The Juncos are still about in the same numbers as last month.

Following are other migration data:

American Roughleg Hawks - Common
Prairie Falcon - 1 1/18
Sparrow Hawk - 1 1/18
Horned Owl, eggs - 2/12
Red-shafted Flicker - 1 1/27
Horned Lark - going north by hundreds, 1/18
singing for first time, 1/27
Blue Jay - 1 2/6, heard calling in Fort Morgan
Crow - 1 2/2, very rare here in winter.
Gray Shrike - remains about; was observed trying to capture a Tree Sparrow during the cold weather when the mice were staying hidden.
Starling - 1 1/27 first this year.
House Sparrow - 2 1/27 first this year, did not stay.
Western Meadowlark - first heard singing (in a minor key) 1/27
Red-winged Blackbird - 3 1/23
American Tree Sparrow - singing in minor key, first time 1/27, and to present
Lapland Longspur - going north by the hundreds, 1/18

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CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY - MARCH 1956

February
26 (Sun.) 7:30 AM Field Trip to Georgetown (Rosy Finches, perhaps). Donald Thatcher, leader (GL5-7479). Meet at Main Library(Civic Center). Bring lunch if desired. (Transp. 75¢)
28 (Tues.) 7 PM Ecology discussion
8 PM Regular meeting. Movies of Colorado and Mexican birds by Joseph E. Taylor -- Bird Room, Denver Museum of Natural History
(Please use north (employees') entrance)

March
10 (Sat.) 10 AM Field Trip to Red Rocks and vicinity. Ruth Wheeler, leader, (GL5-3924). Meet at W. Colfax and Sheridan. Bring lunch. (Trans. 50¢)
25 (Sun.) 7:30 AM Field Trip to Marston Lake and vicinity. Joe Taylor, leader, (WE4-8137). Meet W. Colfax and Sheridan. ½ day. (Trans. 50¢)

Please call leader before field trips, if possible.
Anyone interested is welcome at all meetings and trips.
Transportation is by private cars; charge is suggested amount for those riding with others.

COLORADO BIRD NOTES

Bulletin of the Colorado Bird Club

Vol. 3, No. 7 March, 1956

Weather and the Migration of Birds

By John W. Flavin, Jr.

In the spring and fall of the year the migrating cyclones of the temperate zones move across our continent with increased intensity and speed. They generally move from west to east or from southwest to northeast. Associated with these storms is a system of fronts which are merely the boundary lines between different air masses. A typical storm may occur in the following manner. A mass of warm moist air flows northeastward from across the Gulf of Mexico. At the same time a mass of cool, dry air is moving out of central Canada across the Great Plains, toward the southeast. As the cool air advances against the warm air it sets off a multitude of thunderstorms. These Thunderstorms define the boundary between the airmasses. As this front nears a given point the warm southwest wind increases in intensity. A continuous wall of thunderheads appears in the northwest and moves rapidly closer. Soon the sun is blotted out by the towering clouds and the wind subsides. The clouds become black and suddenly the wind shifts to the northwest. It comes in with great force bending trees and raising clouds of dust. At the same time large drops of rain begin to fall and perhaps some hail. Soon the heavens open up and a heavy rain falls. The windshift to the northwest was the actual passage of the front and the temperature dropped abruptly as it passed. In ten minutes it may drop ten degrees and in two hours after the front passes it may drop as much as thirty degrees. Usually the rain is brief and the skies clear within a few hours. The wind stays but of the northwest for a day or so and the skies may be clear or have some billowy white clouds.

If this storm occurs in April or May one may find a large concentration of birds in the warm southwest wind preceding the frontal passage. Many hawks may be seen high in the sky just as the clouds of the storm arrive, but before the wind shifts. The day preceding the frontal passage may produce warbler 'waves', one of the most satisfying thrills to the ornithologist.

After the front passes there is a decided decrease in the number of birds. Of course, many birds are already nesting and they do not account for the decrease. But the migrants stop moving or have moved out. Many of them stay in the warm air and fly tangent to the front for many miles.

The reverse procedure occurs in September and October but the result is more marked. There is a dearth of birds when the southwest wind is blowing. On Hawk Mountain in Pennsylvania only a few hawks may be seen all day. On the coastal beaches one may see some small flocks of shorebirds and the usual gulls and terns. The only predators may be a Marsh Harrier or two and an Osprey. During the night a cold front passes through. In the morning one awakens to find the ground wet from the brief showers of the frontal passage. A cool, brisk northwest wind is blowing and the skies are clearing. A weather-conscious birder may anticipate the situation and be at Hawk Mountain at sunrise. About eight o'clock the first Broad-winged Hawks will start to pass the mountain top. By ten o'clock the sky will be filled with hawks as

far as the eye can see up and down the ridge. On such a day a person can count between 5,000 and 10,000 birds of prey and easily see ten species of hawks, both eagles and the turkey vulture.

On the coastal beach one may see a large flight of falcons, particularly Merlins and Sparrow Hawks. Other hawks are also seen in large numbers particularly Marsh Harriers and Ospreys. Large flights of shorebirds, swallows, and even land birds may be observed.

The reason for these large concentrations of birds is fairly obvious. They merely hitch rides on the air currents moving in the direction in which they wish to travel. The front acts as a barrier in the atmosphere against which the birds are concentrated. Along the coast the sea acts as an additional barrier. Birds following a front are stopped when they reach the coast and follow it until a windshift permits easy flying back to the mainland.

For reasons that I have not yet been able to determine the concentration of birds along fronts does not exist to any great extent in the Denver area. I have noticed some increase in the movement of hawks associated with frontal passages but no large increase in passerines is apparent. I have watched the full moon shortly after frontal passages in the fall and seen few if any birds. I hope some day to find a correlation between weather systems and the migration of birds in this area but it will probably take several years.

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WELDONA NOTES

by Howard Rollin

March 13, 1956 - The past month has again seen little of especial interest in the way of bird life here, except for a few spring migrants. The warm days saw a diminution of some of the winter residents (Lapland Longspurs and Tree Sparrows) and the stormy weekend of the tenth, an increase, especially of the latter. Longspurs are here in small numbers at this time but no large flocks have been noted. Rough-legged Hawk, Marsh Hawk and Golden Eagle are all here in low numbers. Great Horned Owl, nesting, had three eggs March 7. Killdeers are usually here by this time, but none have been noted so far this year.

Following are other migration data:

Sparrow Hawk - 2 3/2, one along road to Weldona and one in Weldona
Ring-necked Pheasant - 2 3/2 near Weldona
Mountain Bluebird - 1 3/5, again 8 3/10 (first 3/3 last year)
Gray Shrike - still present (last date 1955, 2/28)
Starling - 1 2/26, small flock of about 10 on road to Fort Morgan, 3/9
House Sparrow - here again 2/17 and remains in very small numbers
American Goldfinch - 15 2/22, and 1 or 2 come in occasionally
Common Redpoll - 25 2/16
Song Sparrow - 1 3/18, a very early date for it; is still here (previous earliest records, April 3, 1947 and 1950)
The three subspecies of Oregon Junco continue here, also the White-winged.

BIRDS OF THE MONTH

by Donald M. Thatcher

March 21, 1956 - The cold weather of February and most of early March has delayed migration, as compared with last year; the only migrants reported in the vicinity of Denver are the Mountain Bluebird and a few species of ducks. Several ducks (Redhead, Ringnecked, and Bufflehead) appeared in northwest Denver (Berkeley and Rocky Mountain Lakes) about February 26-29, then left when the lakes refroze. The Robin is now well distributed and in song, but is in perhaps fewer numbers than during the winter months.

Following are early migration data and some winter records. Contributors: Ona Anderson, John Chapin, Catherine Crone, Larry Crowley, John Dennis (Nantucket, Mass.), John and Margaret Douglass, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. D. Hanesworth, Mr. and Mrs. Grier, Mrs. John Lett, Leonard Licht, L. Jack Lyon, Thompson Marsh, Cal Royall, Dale Rice, D. M. Thatcher.

Great Blue Heron - 2 2/22 near Boulder (CC); 3 2/11, 2 2/18 near Loveland; 1 2/19 Timnath (JD, MD)

Gadwall - 2 Loveland, 2 Fort Collins 3/3 (JD, MD)

Green-winged Teal - 33 2/11, 53 2/26 Big Thompson River, near Loveland (JD, MD)

Redhead - 2 2/22 (Mrs. C) Carter Lake, 38 3/2 Ryan Gulch Lakes, 35 3/3 Loveland, 375 3/3 Carter Lake, 225 3/4 Horsetooth Reservoir, Fort Collins (JD, MD); 1000 3/18 Bowles Lake (Jefferson Co.) (DT, LL)

Lesser Scaup - 2 2/18 Big Thompson River, near Loveland (JD, MD)

Bufflehead - 1 male 2/26 N. Denver (DT)

Barrow's Goldeneye - 2 2/4 City Park Lake, Denver (TM)

Red Breasted Merganser - 1 male 2/25 Horsetooth Reservoir (JD, MD); 1-2 males 2/11, 25 N. Denver (TM); 3 males 3/18 Bowles Lake (DT, LL)

Bald Eagle - 1 2/22 near Boulder (CC); 1 imm. 2/29 Boulder, 2 adult 3/3 Loveland (JD, MD)

Mourning Dove - 1 2/9, 17 Platteville (Mrs. JL); 2 2/18 near Berthoud (JD, MD)

Long-eared Owl - 6 2/17 NE Colorado (LJL)

Short-eared Owl - 4 2/4, 1 2/23, 21 between Ft. Collins and Loveland (JD, MD); 2 2/16 Boulder (LC); total of 8 in 5 days, February NE Colorado (LJL)

Saw-whet Owl - 1 2/16 Boulder (LC); 1 3/11 Georgetown, at feeder (OA)

Horned Lark - left vicinity of Platteville, as of March 12 (Mrs. JL)

Brown Creeper - 1 2/6 SE Denver (TM)

Mockingbird - 1 2/18, 26 near Loveland (JD, MD)

Mountain Bluebird - 1 2/23 NE Colo. (LJL); 1 2/26 Waterton (JC); 1 2/29 Platteville (Mrs. JL); 36 3/3 near Ft. Collins and Loveland (JD, MD) (first 1955 1/30, 2/13)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 1 2/10 Cheyenne, Wyo. (Griers)

Cedar Waxwing - Flocks of up to 50 2/15-3/2, Boulder (JCrowley); 2 3/8 NW Denver (DT)

Gray Shrike - 14 occurrences of 1-3 in 8 days, between Boulder and Ft. Collins 2/25, 3/4 (JD, MD); (several additional reports)

Loggerhead Shrike - 1 about 3/14 Federal Center, Denver (CR)

Starling - about 2000 2/12 Cheyenne (RDH)

Red-winged Blackbird - 2/3 yellow-females in flocks near Loveland (JD, MD); 3/10 flock of 20, 95% females, S of Littleton (DT)

Rosy Finches - Gray-crowned (including Hepburn's), Black and Brown-capped - 500 2/12 Estes Park (JD, MD); 100 2/26 Georgetown (see field trip report) 3/1, 2/18, 3/10 (DR) 25 3/13 (JD, DT) Georgetown (at Anderson's and Sanders's feeders)

Common Redpoll - 3 2/18 Carter Lake (JD, MD); 1 3/16 Georgetown (JD). (See Weldona Notes)

Harris's Sparrow - 1 2/18 Lyons (JD, MD)

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. H. L. McClintock, 1727 Columbine Avenue, Boulder (Sub)

Miss Lottie M. Peirce, 625 Maxwell Avenue, Boulder

Mr. Alexis San Miguel, 2403A Water Street, Boulder

Miss Lois Webster, 1002 Detroit Street, Denver 6

Mr. & Mrs. Parnell White, 1580 S. Quieto Ct., Denver 23

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CHECK LIST OF COLORADO BIRDS

The Check List Committee has about completed a distributional check list of the more than 400 species of birds known in Colorado. It is planned to include this list in the April C. B. N.

A double field check list is included with this issue. This is not part of the Bird Notes but is intended for individual use in the field or for reporting records.

* * * * *

Will those who have no further use for their Colorado Bird Notes please return them to us, instead of destroying them? We still receive requests for back numbers and have exhausted some issues.

* * * * *

STILL MORE Q.Q.

1. What birds walk down tree trunks?
2. What bird sounds like a distant barking dog at night?
3. What birds can swim with just their heads out of water?
4. What is the fastest flying bird?
5. What birds during mating can swim on their tails?
6. What group of birds feed their young by having the young poke their heads down the adult's throat to get food?
7. Birds maintain their own body temperature. Do they usually maintain it at lower, the same, or higher temperatures than humans?
8. What birds have tongues that go back into their skulls?
9. Which female is distinguished from the other by the light eye * Rusty Blackbird or Brewer's Blackbird?
10. What two birds named for explorers but from different families look like small crows when they're flying and might be confused with one another?

FIELD TRIP REPORT

The trip for Rosy Finches, February 26, 1956 was attended by seven members and friends, and was most successful. At the Andersons' and the Scudders' feeders, at least 100 finches were seen, mostly Gray-crowned, with a good proportion of Hepburn's Gray-crowned, about a dozen Brown-capped and at least three Blacks. A Downy Woodpecker with white wing-spots intermediate between those of the Batchelder's and the Northern, was a regular visitor. Other species at the feeders were Clark's Nutcracker, Steller's Jay, Black-capped and Mountain Chickadees and White-winged, Slate-colored and Oregon Juncos. On the way up, a short stop was made at Genesee Mountain, where sixteen species were seen, including a Hairy Woodpecker feeding (on insects or seeds?) on mullein stalks. Two American Ravens were seen near Idaho Springs.

- Don Thatcher

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CALENDAR FOR MARCH - APRIL 1956

March

25 (Sun.) 7:30 AM Field Trip to Marston Lake and vicinity. Joe Taylor, leader, (WE4-8137). Meet W. Colfax and Sheridan. ½ day. (Trans. 50¢)

27 (Tues.) 7 PM Ecology discussion
8 PM Regular meeting. Film, "The Fossil Story," on fossil birds and mammals. Bird Room, Denver Museum of Natural History (Please use north (employees') entrance)

April

7 (Sat.) 7 AM Field trip to Genesee Mountain Park. Donald Thatcher, leader (GL5-7479). Meet at Main Library, Civic Center. ½ day (Trans. 50¢)

15 (Sun.) 6:30 AM Field trip to Marston and Bowles Lakes. John Flavin, leader (SK6-1744). Meet at Main Library, Civic Center. ½ day (Trans. 50¢)

21 (Sat.) 1 PM Field trip to Barr Lake and vicinity. Jim Humphrey, leader (GR7-3800). Meet Montview and Colorado Blvds. (Trans. 50¢)

24 (Tues.) 7 PM Ecology discussion
8 PM Regular meeting

29 (Sun.) 7:30 AM Field trip to Barr Lake and vicinity. Leonard Licht, leader (DE3-2537). Meet Montview and Colorado Blvds. (Trans. 50¢)

Please call leader before field trips, if possible.

Anyone interested is welcome at all meetings and trips.

Transportation is by private cars; charge is suggested amount for those riding with others.

COLORADO BIRD CLUB CKECK LIST - Date . . . . . Area . . . . . Observer

Common Loon	H. Merganser	Sp. Sandpiper	Horned Owl
Horned Grebe	Am. Merganser	Sol Sandpiper	Pygmy Owl
Eared Grebe	RB. Merganser	Willet	BurrowingOwl
WesternGrebe	Turk. Vulture	GrYellowlegs	LongearedOwl
P. bill. Grebe	Goshawk	LrYellowlegs	Sh-eared Owl
WhitePelican	Sh-shin. Hawk	PecSandpiper	Saw-whet Owl
DC. Cormorant	Coopers Hawk	WR. Sandpiper	Poorwill
Gt. Bl. Heron	Redtail Hawk	BdsSandpiper	Nighthawk
Snowy Egret	Swains. Hawk	LstSandpiper	Swift
BCNightHeron	RoughlegHawk	Dowitcher	Wh-thr. Swift
Am. Bittern	Ferrug. Hawk	St. Sandpiper	BT. Hummingbd
	Golden Eagle	SemSandpiper	Hummingbd
Canada Goose	Bald Eagle	WstSandpiper	B. Kingfisher
	Marsh Hawk	Marb. Godwit	RS. Flicker
Mallard	Osprey	Sanderling	
Gadwall	Prair. Falcon	Avocet	RHWoodpecker
Baldpate	Per. Falcon	W. Phalarope	L. Woodpecker
Pintail	Pigeon Hawk		RN. Sapsucker
Gr-wing Teal	Sparrow Hawk	Herring Gull	WmsSapsucker
Bl-wing Teal	Blue Grouse	RingbillGull	HairyWoodpkr
CinnamonTeal	Ptarmigan	FranklinGull	DownyWoodpkr
Shoveller	RN. Pheasant	BonapartGull	3toedWoodpkr
Wood Duck	Sandhl. Crane		E. Kingbird
Redhead	VirginiaRail	ForstersTern	W. Kingbird
RingneckDuck	Sora	Black Tern	
Canvasback	Coot	B-tailPigeon	Says Phoebe
Lesser Scaup	Plover	MourningDove	Flycatcher
Am. Goldeneye	Killdeer	Cuckoo	W. Flycatcher
Bufflehead	W. Snipe	Barn Owl	W. W. Pewee
Ruddy Duck	Curlew	Screech Owl	OSFlycatvher
Horned Lark	Thrasher	Chat	Lr. Goldfinch
VG. Swallow	Robin	Bl-cpWarbler	RedCrossbill
Tree Swallow	HermitThrush	Redstart	Gr-tl. Towhee
Bank Swallow	Ol-bk Thrush	HouseSparrow	Spot. Towhee
RW. Swallow	Veery	Bobolink	Brown Towhee
Barn Swallow	WestBluebird	W. Meadowlark	Lark Bunting
CliffSwallow	Mt. Bluebird	YelhdBlackbd	Say. Sparrow
Gray Jay	Solitaire	Redwing	Gr. Sparrow
Blue Jay	Gnatcatcher	Oriole	Vesp. Sparrow
Stellers Jay	GC. Kinglet	Bul. Oriole	Lark Sparrow
Scrub Jay	RC. Kinglet	RustyBlackbd	Cas. Sparrow
Magpie	Water Pipit	Brew. Blackbd	
Am. Raven	Boh. Waxwing	Crow Blackbd	Wh-wng. Junco
Crow	Ced. Waxwing	BH. Cowbird	Sl-col. Junco
Pinyon Jay	Gray Shrike	West. Tanager	Oregon Junco
Nutcracker	Log. Shrike	BH. Grosbeak	Gr-hd. Junco
BC. Chickadee	Starling	BlueGrosbeak	Tree Sparrow
Mt. hickadee	Sol. Vireo	Ind. Bunting	Chip. Sparrow
Bushtit	RedeyedVireo	Laz. Bunting	ClcolSparrow
WB. Nuthatch	Warb. Vireo	Dickcissel	Brew. Sparrow
RB. Nuthatch		Eve. Grosbeak	Har. Sparrow
Pyg. Nuthatch	Or-crWarbler	CassinsFinch	WC. Sparrow
BrownCreeper	Vir. Warbler	House Finch	Whth Sparrow
Dipper	Yel. Warbler	PineGrosbeak	Fox Sparrow
House Wren	Myr. Warbler	GC. RosyFinch	Linc. Sparrow
Wren	Aud. Warbler	Bl. RosyFinch	SwampSparrow
Canyon Wren	Warbler	BC. RosyFinch	Song Sparrow
Rock Wren	Warbler	Redpoll	Longspur
Mockingbird	MacG. Warbler	Pine Siskin	Snow Bunting
Catbird	Yellowthroat	Am. Goldfinch	

COLORADO BIRD CLUB CKECK LIST – Date Area Observer

Common Loon		H. Merganser		Sp. Sandpiper		Horned Owl	
Horned Grebe		Am. Merganser		Sol Sandpiper		Pygmy Owl	
Eared Grebe		RB. Merganser		Willet		BurrowingOwl	
WesternGrebe		Turk. Vulture		GrYellowlegs		LongearedOwl	
P. bill. Grebe		Goshawk		LrYellowlegs		Sh-eared Owl	
WhitePelican		Sh-shin. Hawk		PecSandpiper		Saw-whet Owl	
DC. Cormorant		Coopers Hawk		WR. Sandpiper		Poorwill	
Gt. Bl. Heron		Redtail Hawk		BdsSandpiper		Nighthawk	
Snowy Egret		Swains. Hawk		LstSandpiper		Swift	
BCNightHeron		RoughlegHawk		Dowitcher		Wh-thr. Swift	
Am. Bittern		Ferrug. Hawk		St. Sandpiper		BT. Hummingbd	
		Golden Eagle		SemSandpiper		Hummingbd	
Canada Goose		Bald Eagle		WstSandpiper		B. Kingfisher	
		Marsh Hawk		Marb. Godwit		RS. Flicker	
Mallard		Osprey		Sanderling			
Gadwall		Prair. Falcon		Avocet		RHWoodpecker	
Baldpate		Per. Falcon		W. Phalarope		L. Woodpecker	
Pintail		Pigeon Hawk				RN. Sapsucker	
Gr-wing Teal		Sparrow Hawk		Herring Gull		WmsSapsucker	
Bl-wing Teal		Blue Grouse		RingbillGull		HairyWoodpkr	
CinnamonTeal		Ptarmigan		FranklinGull		DownyWoodpkr	
Shoveller		RN. Pheasant		BonapartGull		3toedWoodpkr	
Wood Duck		Sandhl. Crane				E. Kingbird	
Redhead		VirginiaRail		ForstersTern		W. Kingbird	
RingneckDuck		Sora		Black Tern			
Canvasback		Coot		B-tailPigeon		Says Phoebe	
Lesser Scaup		Plover		MourningDove		Flycatcher	
Am. Goldeneye		Killdeer		Cuckoo		W. Flycatcher	
Bufflehead		W. Snipe		Barn Owl		W. W. Pewee	
Ruddy Duck		Curlew		Screech Owl		OSFlycatvher	
Horned Lark		Thrasher		Chat		Lr. Goldfinch	
VG. Swallow		Robin		Bl-cpWarbler		RedCrossbill	
Tree Swallow		HermitThrush		Redstart		Gr-tl. Towhee	
Bank Swallow		Ol-bk Thrush		HouseSparrow		Spot. Towhee	
RW. Swallow		Veery		Bobolink		Brown Towhee	
Barn Swallow		WestBluebird		W. Meadowlark		Lark Bunting	
CliffSwallow		Mt. Bluebird		YelhdBlackbd		Sav. Sparrow	
Gray Jay		Solitaire		Redwing		Gr. Sparrow	
Blue Jay		Gnatcatcher		Oriole		Vesp. Sparrow	
Stellers Jay		GC. Kinglet		Bul. Oriole		Lark Sparrow	
Scrub Jay		RC. Kinglet		RustyBlackbd		Cas. Sparrow	
Magpie		Water Ripit		Brew. Blackbd			
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RB. Nuthatch				Eve. Grosbeak		Har. Sparrow	
Pyg. Nuthatch		Or-crWarbler		CassinsFinch		WC. Sparrow	
BrownCreeper		Vir. Warbler		House Finch		Whth Sparrow	
Dipper		Yel. Warbler		PineGrosbeak		Fox Sparrow	
House Wren		Myr. Warbler		GC. RosyFinch		Linc. Sparrow	
Wren		Aud. Warbler		Bl. RosyFinch		SwampSparrow	
Canyon Wren		Warbler		BC. RosyFinch		Song Sparrow	
Rock Wren		Warbler		Redpoll		Longspur	
Mockingbird		MacG. Warbler		Pine Siskin		Snow Bunting	
Catbird		Yellowthroat		Am. Goldfinch			

COLORADO BIRD NOTES

Bulletin of the Colorado Bird Club

Vol. 3, No. 8 April 1956

1956 State-wide Spring Count

It is planned to conduct the second State-wide Spring Count this year on Saturday, May 19. Last year's successful count was held on May 21, and 190 species were found by seventeen parties throughout Colorado. Counts for the three previous years were made by only one party, which found: 1952, 119 species (2 observers); 1953, 143 species (5); and 1954, 119 species (6).

Birders throughout Colorado who receive this notice are urged to take part in this count, which can be of considerable scientific value, especially if repeated over several years. Reports similar to those for the Christmas Count are requested, to include: names of observers, hours in the field, miles travelled on foot or by car or other means, habitats covered (a rough breakdown is satisfactory) and numbers (estimates for large flocks) of each species of bird seen. (We should like to have, also, the number of observations of each species, for a later project.) Unlike the Christmas Count, there are no limits to the area that one party may cover and there is no minimum time requirement. While it is desired that all counts be made in the same day, May 19, reports for the following day from those unable to be in the field May 19 are welcome.

All those at Denver who wish to participate should notify John Chapin (SK 6-2200) so that parties can be arranged and assigned to different sections.

- DMT

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Weldona Notes

By Howard Rollin

April 11, 1956 - There has been a little more of interest in Bird Land this month than there was in the last month's report. Some winter residents have left, some migrants have come and gone, and some of the summer residents have arrived. Many migrants so far have been in very small numbers, for instance, the Mountain Bluebirds, of which only about 25 or 30 were seen this spring. Red-winged Blackbirds remain scarce; small flocks from one to half a dozen or so stray in occasionally. Starlings come and go in about the same numbers, and the House Sparrow is about in small numbers.

Following are other migration data.

Ducks - none seen so far this spring along the creek
Swainson Hawk - not seen yet
Rough-legged Hawk - last 1 3/21
Golden Eagles - remain about
Sparrow Hawk - 1 3/26, 1 3/31, 2 4/4
Pheasant - none seen

Killdeer - first, 2 3/19, about average date; again 2 3/21 and remain in small numbers
Mourning Dove - first 1 4/8 (an average date)
Horned Owl - young about 2 weeks old 4/11
Red-shafted Flicker - 1 3/26,31 and 4/5
Say's Phoebe - first 1 3/29 (average date), again 3/30; nest fixed by 4/7
Horned Lark - first flight song noted 3/29; singing commonly by 3/27 and territories established. Flight songs performed rarely so far
Magpie - showing interest in nests by 3/16, and new nests started by 3/19
Rock Wren - first 1 4/5, again 4/7, and continue about
Robin - 1 3/26,29,31
Mountain Bluebird - 4 3/21, last seen to present
Gray Shrike - last 3/19
Loggerhead Shrike - first 1 4/5 (an early date), again 4/7
Starling - 2 3/19, 1 4/9, 5 4/10
Western Meadowlark - 3/16. Common now, has territories established and singing commonly; nesting by 4/5
Brewer's Blackbird - first 1 3/20 (previous earliest date in last 10 years 4/5/53);
Cowbird - first 1 4/7,9; continues about to present 3 4/10
House Finch - 1 3/26 (very rare visitor)
Lesser Goldfinch - 3/21 small flock near Weldona
Vesper Sparrow - first 1 4/10,11
White-winged Junco - last 3/6
Oregon Juncos - Montana, still here; Shufeldt's, last 3/19; Pink-sided, last 3/25
American Tree Sparrow - singing commonly 3/16, last seen 3/24
Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow - first 1 3/20,21 (previous earliest date 3/18/53); last seen 4/4
Song Sparrow - last seen 3/19; heard singing several different days
Chestnut-collared Longspur - 1 4/4, in full breeding plumage

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BIRDS OF THE MONTH

By Donald M. Thatcher

April 18, 1956 - The Spring migration is proceeding normally, but generally somewhat later than that of last year, although several species have been reported somewhat earlier than in 1955.

Following are a number of arrival and departure dates. Contributors: Douglass Alexander, John Chapin, Catherine Crone, Larry Crowley, John and Margaret Douglass, Mrs. J. Lett, L. Jack Lyon, Thompson Marsh, R. J. Niedrach, Dale Rice, Donald Thatcher, Harold Webster. Asterisk designates scheduled field trip.

Horned Grebe - 4 3/21 Bowles Lake (TM)(1st 1955, 3/18); 3 3/24 Ft. Collins, 9 4/14 Wellington, 11 4/15 between Ft. Collins and Loveland (JD,MD); 11 4/15 Bowles, Marston Lakes*
Eared Grebe - 2 3/21 Bowles Lake (TM)(This species much fewer than Horned Grebe this Spring)(1st 1955, 3/13)
Double-crested Cormorant - 1 3/31,23 4/15 near Ft. Collins (JD,MD); 25 4/15 Marston and Johnson Lakes*
Whistling Swan - 3 3/24 Swede Lakes, Boulder (DA,LC)
Snow Goose - 4 4/14 Wellington (JD,MD)
Gadwall - frequent since 3/24 Ft. Collins and vicinity (JD,MD)
Pintail - 3-4,000 3/10 near Loveland (JD,MD)
Blue-winged Teal - 3-5 3/30-4/1 Ft. Collins (JD,MD); few 3/24 Boulder (DA,JC)

(JD,MD)
Cinnamon Teal - 1 3/24 Boulder (LC,DA)(1st 1955 3/13); 11 4/14 vicinity Ft. Collins
Bufflehead - 2 3/24 Boulder (DA,LC); 12 3/31, 9 4/1 vicinity Loveland (JD,MD)
Swainson's Hawk - 1 4/13 Denver (HW)
Osprey - 1 4/15 Marston Lake*
American Sparrow Hawk - 44 (40 occurrences) 4/14, 54 (22 occurrences) 4/15 vicinity Ft. Collins - Loveland (JD,MD)
Baird's Sandpiper - 55 4/14 Windsor (JD,MD); 30 4/14 Marston Lake, Denver* (1st 1955 3/27)
Least Sandpiper - 1 4/14 Marston Lake*
Sanderling - 1 4/15 Marston Lake*
American Avocet - 15 4/7 Ft. Collins, 41 4/14 vicinity Ft. Collins (JD,MD)(1st 1955 4/6)
Franklin's Gull - 3 4/1 with large flock Ring-billed Gulls, Loveland (JD,MD); 3 4/5 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Mourning Dove - 5 3/15, first song 4/7 Platteville (Mrs.JL); 1 3/23 singing Denver (DT); 2 3/29 SE Denver (TM); several 3/30 Crook (LJL)
Burrowing Owl - 6 4/7 (first since November) Platteville (Mrs.JL)
White-throated Swift - 1 3/31 Red Rocks Park (DR); several 3/31 Boulder (LC); 4/8 Colorado Springs (JC) (1st 1954 4/4, 1955 4/9)
Williamson's Sapsucker - 2 3/31 Genesee Mountain Park (DR); (1st 1954 4/4, 1955 4/16)
Western Kingbird - 3 4/6 Denver Federal Center (DR) (1st 1955 4/29)
Say's Phoebe - 1 4/7 Platteville (Mrs.JL); 1 4/8 near Denver (RJN); 1 4/14 Ft. Collins, 1 4/15 Loveland (JD,MD) (1st 4/24 1954, 4/20 1955)
Horned Lark - 5 4/7 at 12,500 ft. Mt. Sniktau (Loveland Pass) (DR)
Barn Swallow - 2 4/14 NW Denver (DT) (1st 1954 4/28, 1955 4/21)
Common Bushtit - 1 3/25 in Ponderosa Pine foothills 7 miles W. of Loveland (JD,MD)
Red-breasted Nuthatch - 1 4/7 City Park, Denver (TM,DT); 1 4/13 SE Denver (TM)
Brown Creeper - 1 3/5 SE Denver (TM)
Canyon Wren - nesting (1 egg) 4/13 near Sedalia (RJN)
Rock Wren - 4/10 vicinity Sedalia (RJN) (1st 1954 4/4, 1955 4/24)
Sage Thrasher - 1 4/14 Wellington (JD,MD); 1 4/15 near Denver (RJN)
Western Bluebird - 3 pr. 3/24 Evergreen (TM) (1st 1955 4/10)
Mountain Bluebird - 3/22 NE Colorado (LJL)
Water Pipit - 1 4/1 Ft. Collins, 14 4/15 Loveland (JD,MD)
Loggerhead Shrike - 3/22 NE Colorado (LJL) (1st 1955 4/8)
Gray Shrike - last (Colorado) 3/15 vicinity Boulder, 3/18 Heber Valley, Utah (JD,MD); last 1 4/7 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Yellow-headed Blackbird - 3 3/25 near Boulder (CC); 2 4/14 vicinity Ft. Collins (JD,MD) (1st 1955 4/10)
Rusty Blackbird - 50 3/10 near Loveland (JD,MD)
Brewer's Blackbird - 10 3/16, 15 4/2 Platteville (Mrs.JL) (1st 1955 3/12)
Crow Blackbird - 2 4/3 Cherry Creek, Denver (TM) (1st 1955 4/17)
Brown-headed Cowbird - 1 4/7 Georgetown (DR)
Rosy Finches - Approx. 700 Gray-crowned, 400 Hepburn's Gray-crowned, 70 Brown-capped, 30 Black 3/20 near Parshall (Middle Park) (DR)
American Tree Sparrow - 3 3/25 (last) Platteville (Mrs.JL); 4 3/25 near Boulder (CC); 1 3/31 (last) near Ft. Collins (JD,MD)
White-throated Sparrow - 1 in song 3/23,31 Boulder (LC)

* * * * *

WELCOME, NEW MEMBER

Justice, Mr. Frank, 1917 So. Quitman Street, Denver

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

The trip, March 10, to RED ROCKS PARK and vicinity, was attended by 12 people, Ruth Wheeler and Sadie Morrison leading. Thirty-four species were seen, of which the Mountain Bluebird (100) was the only early spring migrant. Seven species of ducks and 200 Canada Geese were seen at the ponds near the Federal Correction Institute.

The trip to MARSTON LAKE, March 25, led by Joe Taylor, was attended by six members. Twenty-nine species were found, including 13 of ducks and geese. The Horned Grebe was the only spring migrant.

April 15, the trip to GENESEE MOUNTAIN PARK was made by four people. Eighteen species were seen, in the Ponderosa Pine habitat, of which a pair of Mountain Bluebirds and an unusually large number of Western Bluebirds were the only spring migrants. Other species included a Clark's Nutcracker, a Red Crossbill, a Cooper's and a Sharp-shinned Hawk.

Four visited MARSTON LAKE and vicinity, April 15. Fourteen species of ducks and geese were seen, of which the Gadwall was most numerous and a pair of Red-breasted Mergansers the most unusual. Shorebirds were a few Killdeer, 2 Avocets and a flock of 30 Baird's Sandpipers accompanied by a Least Sandpiper and a Sanderling. Several hundred Coot, a dozen Horned Grebes (no Eared Grebes), 2 Pied-bills, a Common Loon and 25 Double-crested Cormorants were the other water birds. Hawks seen were Red-tailed, Osprey, Peregrine Falcon, 1 each, and 10 Sparrow Hawks.

* * * * *

CALENDAR FOR APRIL - MAY 1956

April

24 (Tues.) 7 PM Ecology discussion
8 PM Regular meeting. Short films on Bird Migration in England, Migration Flyways and Song Birds of North Woods.
Bird Room, Denver Museum of Natural History
(Please use north (employees') entrance)

29 (Sun.) 7:30 AM Field trip to Barr Lake and vicinity. Leonard Licht, leader (DE3-2837*). Meet Montview and Colorado Blvds. (Trans. 50¢)

May

5 (Sat.) 1 PM Field trip to Marston Lake. Joe Taylor, leader (WE4-8137). Meet at West 25th and Sheridan Blvd. (Sloan's Lake Park) (Trans. 50¢)

6 (Sun.) 7 AM Field trip to Platteville. Don Thatcher, leader (GL5-7479) Meet at Main Library (Civic Center) (Trans. $1.)

13 (Sun.) 7 AM Field trip to Plum Creek, Sedalia. Jim Humphrey, leader (GR7-3800) Meet at Alameda in block West of Broadway. (Trans. 75¢)

19 (Sat.) All day Spring Count. See page 57.

20 (Sun.) 7 AM Field trip to Barr Lake. Ferd Kleinschnitz, leader (RA2-9041). Meet at Museum Parking Lot (Colorado and Montview Blvd.) (Trans. 50¢)

26 (Sat.) 1 PM Field trip to Castlewood Dam. Sadie Morrison, leader (MA3-0840). Meet at First and Colorado Blvd. (Trans. 75¢)

27 (Sun.) 7 AM Field trip to Deer Creek. John Chapin, leader (SK6-2200). Meet at Alameda in block West of Broadway. (Trans. 75¢)

Please call leader before field trips, if possible.
Anyone interested is welcome at all meetings and trips.
Transportation is by private cars; amounts above are suggested for those riding with others.

* This phone number incorrect in March issue.

DISTRIBUTIONAL CHECK-LIST OF BIRDS OF COLORADO

This check-list is intended to present, on one line for each species, the distribution and relative abundance, by habitats, life zones and seasons, of the more than 400 species of wild birds known to occur in Colorado. It should serve both as a list of the birds the newcomer, visitor or beginning birder can expect to find and as a guide for the more established birder in knowing which species or occurrences are especially worthy of recording and reporting. Species known only through sight records are so indicated and one (Sprague's Pipit) probably has not actually been recorded in Colorado.

Species are arranged in the order of the A.O.U. Check List of North American Birds, 4th Edition, 1931. Most of the nomenclature is of that list, but many names are changed in anticipation of the forthcomong revision, as listed in Audubon Field Notes 4:37-39 (Feb. 1950) and 4:260 (Aug. 1950) or in several recent books. For a number of species whose common names have been revised, the formerly-used names have been added in parentheses in the Species or Remarks columns. Subspecies are listed separetely under those species of which two or more races <u>readily</u> identified or having <u>distinct</u> ranges occur in Colorado; all other species are listed by their specific names only.

Each species in the list is followed by the symbols for its major habitat or habitats; for permanent residents or breeding summer residents (P or B), the breeding habitat(s) is given first, followed in parenthesis by other habitats, if any, in which the bird occurs regularly, as in winter or migration. The relative abundance and seasonal occurrence are listed for each species in the proper life zone columns. Many lists of this kind, for areas including only one or perhapstwo life zones, indicate relative abundance graphically, usually by means of heavy lines of varying width, but simultaneous occurrence of many species at different degrees of abundance in several life zones makes that method too cumbersome for use in a list for Colorado. The "Remarks" column includes information on reported occurrences of extremely rare species, "sight record only" status, peculiar habitats and notes indicating in which approximate half (north, south, east or west) or quarter (as NE) of Colorado a species at the extreme limits of its range and not found throughout the State generally occurs. The symbols for habitats, abundance and seasons are, as nearly as possible without duplication, the initials of the words they represent. Degree of relative abundance refers to the general group in which a bird is included (thus, a "common" hawk actually may be much less numerous than an "uncommon" warbler or finch). Abundance symbols for extremely rare, uncommon or abundant species (R, U, A) and symbols for some especially preferred habitats are underlined for emphasis.

<u>Habitat Symbols</u>

(Used in combination, the capital letter for the group with one or more lower-case letters for specific habitats: Tjp = Pinon-Juniper and Ponderosa Pine forests. In a few cases, the group letter (D,P,etc.) is used alone for species occurring generally throughout that group.)

- D - desert
  - a - alkaline
  - c - cactus
- P - prairie
  - d - dry or short-grass
  - g - long-grass
  - i - irrigated
- B - brush
  - c - chaparrel (other than oak)
  - m - mesquite
  - o - scrub oak
  - r - brushy ravines
  - s - sage brush
- R - rock
  - c - cliffs, bluffs, rocky canyons
  - o - outcrops
  - t - talus, broken rock
- W - wet or moist
  - a - alders, willows
  - b - bogs, swamps
  - c - cattails
  - l - lakes, ponds
  - m - wet meadows
  - s - streams
  - w - wooded stream-bottoms
- T - trees, forest
  - a - aspen forest
  - c - coniferous forest (general)
  - d - Douglas Fir forest
  - j - pinon-juniper forest
  - l - Lodgepole Pine forest
  - p - Ponderosa Pine forest
  - s - spruce-fir forest

F - farms
  b - farm buildings
  g - groves
  o - orchards
E - earth banks

C - cities
  s - suburbs, parks, residential
  u - urban areas
A - alpine
  t - tundra
  w - willows

Life Zones

USon - Upper Sonoran or Plains, 3500 to 6000 feet elevation. Typically grassland, includes some desert or semi-desert and juniper or pinon-juniper woodland; cottonwoods in stream-bottoms; many lakes, ponds and cattail swamps.

Trans - Transition or Foothills, 6000 to 8000 feet. Typically Ponderosa Pine forest, replaced by pinon-juniper forest in the dryest parts and Douglas Fir forest in the higher, wetter parts; occasional aspen; scrub oak, pure or in mixture with the pines is common in the southern two-thirds of the State; many open, grassland "parks"; some semi-desert (San Luis Valley).

Can - Canadian or Montane, 8000 to 10,000 feet. Typically Engelmann Spruce forest, with Lodgepole Pine forest in the dryer (burned) parts; Alpine Fir mixed with spruce above 9000 feet; Trembling Aspen mixed or in pure stands throughout; open grassland or sage brush parks in valleys.

Hud - Hudsonian or Subalpine, 10,000 to 11,500 feet (timberline). Forest of Engelmann Spruce and Alpine Fir, diminishing in height to timberline; scattered Limber and Bristlecone Pines in mixture.

A-A - Arctic-Alpine, above 11,500 feet. Tundra, with sedges, grasses, herbs and dwarf, shrubby willows; much bare rock.

(Altitudinal life zone limits are somewhat higher south and on southern exposures and lower north and on northern exposures.)

Abundance

A - abundant. Found in considerable numbers daily in indicated habitats, life zones and seasons.
C - common. Found frequently, in small numbers.
U - uncommon. Found infrequently, but regularly, in varying numbers.
R - rare. Found only at considerable intervals, generally in very small numbers.

Seasonal Occurrence

P - permanent resident. Found in same general area and life zone throughout year.
B - summer resident, known to breed.
S - summer resident, not known to breed.
F - fall or late summer visitor.
W - winter resident.
M - migrant, both spring and fall in similar numbers.
  Mf - fall migrant only.
  Ms - spring migrant only
str - straggler or casual visitor, out of its normal range.
Vs, Vw - summer visitor, winter visitor, of irregular occurrence in stated season.

* * * * * * *

This check-list is presented here as a preliminary edition, for your use and criticism. Each reader is urged to compare it with his own lists, experience and ornithological literature and to send us any additions, corrections or suggestions for improving its readibility and its usefulness. It is planned to revise the present list for the Club membership and to make it available at cost to outsiders, especially prospective visitors to Colorado, from whom we frequently receive requests for such a list.

Species	Habitats	OCCURRENCE Life Zones USon	Trans	Can	Hud	A-A	Remarks
Common Loon	Wl	UM	UM	RM			
Yellow-billed Loon	Wl	str					(Asia & Alaska) 1 rec.
Arctic Loon (Pacific L.)	Wl	str					
Red-throated Loon	Wl	str					1 record
Red-necked Grebe	Wl	RM					(Holboell's Grebe)
Horned Grebe	Wl	CM	UM				
Eared Grebe	Wlc	CMB	CMB	UM			
Western Grebe	Wlc	UMS	UB	U			
Pied-billed Grebe	Wlc	CMB;UW	CMB				
White Pelican	Wl	UMS	UMS	RMS	RM	RM	
Brown Pelican	Wl	str					1 record
Double-crested Cormorant	Wlw	CMB					
Olivaceous Cormorant	Wl	str					(Mexican C.) 1 rec.1899
Anhinga	Wls	str					2 records, 1927, 1931
Great Blue Heron	Ww(Wls)	CB;RW	CB				
American Egret	Wls	str					6 records
Snowy Egret	Ww(Wls)	UB	UB				(Brewster's Egret)
Reddish Egret	Wls	str					2 records
Little Blue Heron	Wls	str					
Green Heron	Wlsw	RS					East
Black-crowned Night Heron	Ww(Wls)	CB;RW	CB				
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	Wlsw	str					East
American Bittern	Wc	CB	CB				
Least Bittern	Wc	RB					
Wood Ibis	Wls	str					summer
Glossy Ibis (Eastern)	Wlsc	str					summer, 2 records
White-faced Ibis	Wwc(Wlsc)	UB	UB				(White-faced Glossy I.)
White Ibis	Wls	str					2 records
Scarlet Ibis	Wls		str				(So.America) 1 rec. Custer Co. 1876
Roseate Spoonbill	Wls	str					2 records
Whistling Swan	Wl	UMW					
Trumpeter Swan	Wl	str					3 records
Canada Goose							
Common	Wlc(Ws,Pi)	CMW;RB	CM	UM			
Lesser	Wls,Pi	UMW					
Richardson's (Hutchins's)	Wls,Pi	RMW					Questionable
Cackling	Wls,Pi	RMW					Questionable
Brant	Wl	str					1 questionable record
White-fronted Goose	Wls	RMW					
Snow Goose	Wls	UM					(Lesser Snow Goose)
Ross's Goose	Wl	str					2 records
Mallard	Wmc(Wls,Pi)	APM	CBM	CB	US		
Mexican Duck	Wls	str					(New Mexican Duck)
Black Duck	Wls	str					East; 2 records
Mottled Duck	Wls	str		U			1 record
Gadwall	Pi(Wlsc)	UP;CM	UB	UB			
American Widgeon (Baldpate)	Pi(Wls)	CM;UP	UM	UM			Breeds NE
Pintail	Pdgi(Wls)	AM;UP	UMB	UM			Breeds North
Green-winged Teal	Pgi(Wls)	CM;UP	UM;RP	UM			
Blue-winged Teal	Pgi(Wls)	CMB	UMB				
Cinnamon Teal	Wm;Pgd(Wls)	UMB	UMB				
Shoveller	Wm;Pg(Wls)	AM;CBW	CM;UB	CM;UB			
Wood Duck	Wls	UMW					
Redhead	Wc(Wls)	UP;CM	UMB	UM			
Ring-necked Duck	Wls	UMW					
Canvasback	Wl	UM;RS					

Species	Habitats	OCCURRENCE Life Zones USon	Trans	Can	Hud	A-A	Remarks
Greater Scaup	Wl	str					
Lesser Scaup	Wl	CM;USW					
American Goldeneye	Wl	CM;UW	UM	UM			
Barrow's Goldeneye	Tc(Wls)	RW	RW	RB			Breeds NW
Bufflehead	Wl	UM;UW	UM				
Old-squaw	Wl	RW					
Harlequin Duck	Wl	RW	RW	RB?			
Common (American) Eider	Wl	str					2 records
White-winged Scoter	Wl	RM					
Surf Scoter	Wl	RM					
American Scoter	Wl	RM					
Ruddy Duck	Wc(Wl)	CMB	CM;UB	UM			Breeds NE
Hooded Merganser	Wls	UMW	UM				
Common (American) Merganser	T(Wls)	CMW	UMW	UMB			Breeds northern mts.
Red-breasted Merganser	Wls	UMW	UMW				
Turkey Vulture	Rc(P,D,F,T)	UB;RW	CBM	UM	UM		
Black Vulture	P,F	str					
Swallow-tailed Kite	--	str	-	-	str		3 records
Mississippi Kite	--	str					2 records
Goshawk	Tls(Tc;Ww)	UW	UP	UP			
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Tco(Ww;Cs;Fg)	UMW	UPM	UB	US		
Cooper's Hawk	Tco(Ww;Cs;Fg)	UMW	UPM	UB			
Red-tailed Hawk	Rc;Ww;Tc(Pi)	CP	CP	UP	US	UM	
Harlan's Hawk	" "	RP	RP				
Red-shouldered Hawk							
Northern	Ww	str					Extreme East
Red-bellied	Ww	str					West
Broad-winged Hawk	Ww;P	RM	RM				East
Swainson's Hawk	D;Pdg;Ww(Tc)	Am;CB	CM;UB	CMf;UB	CMf	CMf	
Rough-legged Hawk (American)	Pi;Ww	CW	UW				
Ferruginous Hawk	Rco;Ww;Tc	UP	UB	UB	UM	UM	(Ferrug.Rough-legged)
Golden Eagle	Rc;Tc(P)	UP	UP	UP	UP	US	
Bald Eagle	Wls;Rc	UW;RS	UMW;RS	UMW	UM	UM	
Marsh Harrier	Wcm(Pdg)	CP	CBM	UMS	UM	UM	
Osprey	Rc(Wls)	UMS	UMS	UMS			
Audubon's Caracara	--		str				1 record (Aspen, Colo.)
Prairie Falcon	Rc(P;Tc)	CB;UW	UP	UP	UM	UM	
Peregrine Falcon	Rc(Wl)	UM;RP	UM;RP	UM	UM	UM	(Duck Hawk)
Merlin (Pigeon Hawk)							
Richardson's	Ww;P;Cs;Tc	UMW	UMW	UM			
Western	Ww;P;Cs;Tc	UMW	UMW	UM;RB?			
American Kestrel	Ww;Cs;Tc(P)	AM;CB;UW	CM;UB	UM	UM	UM	(Am. Sparrow H.)
Blue (Dusky) Grouse	Tc		UP	CP	UP	UF	Local
Ruffed Grouse	Tc		RP	RP	(NW; prob. extinct in Colo.)		
White-tailed Ptarmigan	Atw(Tc)		RW	RW	UW	UB	
Greater Prairie Chicken	Pdgi	RP					East
Lesser Prairie Chicken	Pdgi	RP			(SE; prob. extinct in Colo.)		
Sharp-tailed Grouse							
Columbian	Pdg	RP	RP				Northwest
Prairie	Pdg;Bo	RP	RP				East
Sage Hen	Bs	UP	UP	UP			
Hungarian Partridge	Bo		UP	Local, introduced; prob. extinct			
Chukar Partridge	Bo		UP	Local, introduced			
Spanish Red-legged Partridge	Bc		UP	Local, intro.; open, brushy farmland			
Bob-white	Pi;Ww	UP	UP				East
Scaled Quail	Dc;Bsc;Tj	UP	UP				SE (introduced NE)

Species	Habitats	OCCURRENCE Life Zones USon	Trans	Can	Hud	A-A	Remarks
California Quail	Bco;Tj		UP				SW, introduced
Gambel's Quail	Bco;Tj		UP				Southwest
Ring-necked Pheasant	Pi;Ww	CP	UP				Introduced
Turkey	Tjp;Bo	UP	UP				Local, South
Whooping Crane	P	RM					East (formerly)
Sandhill Crane							
Little Brown	Pgi;Wlm	UM					
Common	Pgi;Wlm	UM;RB	RB	RB			Breeds NW
Virginia Rail	Wc	CB;RW	UB				
Sora	Wcm	CB	UB	RB	RM		
Yellow Rail	Wcm	str					
Black Rail	Wcm	str					
Purple Gallinule	Wcm	str					
Florida Gallinule	Wcml	str	--	str			
American Coot	Wc(Wl)	AM;CP	CB	UB			
Piping Plover	Wl	str					
Snowy Plover	Wl	str					
Ringed Plover	Wl	RM	RM				(Semipalmated Plover)
Mountain Plover	Pd	UB	UB				
Killdeer	Wlsm;Pi	AB;CW	CM;UB	US	RM		
American Golden Plover	Wl	RM					Chiefly fall migrant
Black-bellied Plover	Wl	UM					
Ruddy Turnstone	Wl	RM					East
American Woodcock	Wwm	str					East
Common Snipe	Wmw	CB;UW	CB;UW	US			(Wilson's Snipe)
Long-billed Curlew	Wm(Wl)	RB;UM	UM				
Whimbrel	Wlm	RM					(Hudsonian Curlew)
Upland Sandpiper	Pg	RB					(Upland Plover)
Spotted Sandpiper	Wlsm	CB	CB	CB	UB		
Solitary Sandpiper	Wsl	UM	UM	UM			
Willet	Wm(Wl)	CM;RB	-	-	RM		
Greater Yellowlegs	Wls	UM	UM	UM			
Lesser Yellowlegs	Wls	CM	UM	UM			
Red Knot	Wls	RM					1 record
Pectoral Sandpiper	Wlm	UM	UM	UM			
White-rumped Sandpiper	Wl	UM					
Baird's Sandpiper	Wls	AM	CM	UMf	UMf	UMf	
Least Sandpiper	Wls	CM	UM				
Dunlin	Wl	RM					(Red-backed Sandpiper)
Dowitcher	Wl	CM					
Stilt Sandpiper	Wl	UM					
Semipalmated Sandpiper	Wl	UM	UM				
Western Sandpiper	Wl	CMf;UMs	UM				
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Wl	str					2 records
Hudsonian Godwit	Wl	str					1 sight record 1955, NE
Marbled Godwit	Wl	UM	UM				
Sanderling	Wl	UM					
American Avocet	Wm(Wl)	AB	CB				
Black-necked Stilt	Wml	UMS	US				Rare E, uncommon W
Red Phalarope	Wl	str					2 records
Wilson's Phalarope	Wml	CB	UB				Common E, uncommon W
Northern Phalarope	Wl	UM	UM				
Skua	Wl	str					1 sight record, 1955
Parasitic Jaeger	Wl	RMf					
Long-tailed Jaeger	Wl	str					
Glaucous Gull	Wl	str					

Species	Habitats	OCCURRENCE Life Zones USon	Trans	Can	Hud	A-A	Remarks
Western Gull	Wl	str					
Herring Gull	Wls	UMW					
California Gull	Wl	US					
Ring-billed Gull	Wl	CMW;UB	CM				Breeds San Luis Valley
Laughing Gull	Wl	str					
Franklin's Gull	Wl;Pgi	Amf;UMs	CMf				
Bonaperte's Gull	Wlm	UM					
Ivory Gull	Wl	str					1 record
Kittiwake	Wl	str					1 record
Sabine's Gull	Wl	RMf					
Forster's Tern	Wlb	CM;UB					
Common Tern	Wl	str					
Arctic Tern	Wl	str					
Least Tern	Wl	str					
Black Tern	Wcbm(Wl)	AM;CB	UM				
Band-tailed Pigeon	Topjl(Pi)	UM	UB	UB	RS		
Rock Dove	Rc(Pi;Cu)	CP	CP				Introduced
Mourning Dove	P;Ww;Fg;Cs;Toc	AB;UW	CB	UB	UMf	UMf	
White-winged Dove	Dc;Bo	str	str	str			5 records
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Ww;Cs	RB	RS				
Black-billed Cuckoo	Ww	RS					
Road-runner	Dac;Tj;Boc	UP	UP				South
Barn Owl	Fb;E;Rc(P;Ww)	UB					
Screech Owl	Ww;Cs;Tca	UP	UP	UP			
Flammulated Owl	Tjc	RP	RP	RP			(Flam, Screech Owl)
Horned Owl	Ww;Tc(Cs)	CP	CP	CP	UP		
Snowy Owl	Wwbl	RVw	RVw				Northeast; irregular
Pygmy Owl	Tca(Ww;Cs)	RW	RB	RB			
Burrowing Owl	Pd	CB;UP	UB				
Barred Owl	Ww	str					Northeast
Spotted Owl	Ww	R(B?)					South
Long-eared Owl	Ww;Tc	CP	UP	UP			
Short-eared Owl	Wcm	CW	UW				
Richardson's Owl	Ww;Tc		RVw	RVw			Mountains
Saw-whet Owl	Tds(Ww;Cs)	RW	UP	RP			
Whip-poor-will	Ww;Tc		str				2 records
Poor-will	T-;Bo;Ro(Cs)	UMB	UB				
Common Nighthawk	Cu;Ro(Tjp;Bo)	AM;CB	CMB	UB	US	US	
Texas Nighthawk	--	str					
Black Swift	Rc	RM	RB	RB			Local
Chimney Swift	P	str					East
White-throated Swift	Rc	UMB	AM;CB	UB	US	US	
Black-chinned Hummingbird	Tj	US					West, SW
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	Ww;Cs;Tca	CB	AB	CB	UB	UM	
Rufous Hummingbird	Tjps(Ww;Cs)	CB	CM	UM	UM		(UMf in NE)
Calliope Hummingbird	Ww	str	str				
Belted Kingfisher	E(Wls)	CB;UW	CB;RW	US			
Yellow-shafted Flicker	Ww;Cs	US					(Northern Flicker) East
Red-shafted Flicker	Ww;Cs;Tc	AP	CB;UW	CM;UB	US	US	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Ww	str					East
Red-headed Woodpecker	Ww;Fg;Tp	UB	UB				East
Lewis's Woodpecker	Ww;Fg;Tp	CB;UW	CM;UB				
Common Sapsucker							
Yellow-bellied	Ww;Cs;Fgc	RW					East
Red-naped	Ta(Ww;Tpd)	UW	CMB	CB			
Williamson's Sapsucker	Tpja		CB	US			

Species	Habitats	OCCURRENCE Life Zones USon	Trans	Can	Hud	A-A	Remarks
Hairy Woodpecker							
Eastern	Ww;Cs;Fgo	UP					East
Rocky Mountain	Tca;Ww;Cs;Fgo	CP	CP	UP	UP		W. Grt. Plains & West
Downy Woodpecker							
Northern	Ww;Cs;Fgo	UP	RP				East
Nelson's	Ww;CS;Fgo	UP	RP				Northeast
Batchelder's	Tca;Ww;Cs;Fgo	UP	UP	UP	UP		W. Grt. Plains & West
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	Tj;Bo	US	US			(Texas Wdpkr)	SW & extr. S
Three-toed Woodpecker	Ts(Tdp)		RW	UP	UP	(Alaskan, Am. 3-toed W.)	
Eastern Kingbird	Ww;Fbg	CB	UB				Rare West
Western Kingbird	Ww;Fbg;Tj	CB	UB	UMf		(Arkansas Kingbird)	
Cassin's Kingbird	Ww;Fbg;Tpj;Bo	UB	UB	US			
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	Pdg	str					Southeast
Crested Flycatcher	Ww	RS					East
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Tj;Bo	UB	UB				South & West
Olivaceous Flycatcher	Bo	str	str				Southwest
Eastern Phoebe	Ww;Fb	RS					East
Say's Phoebe	E;Fb;Tj;Rc(P)	CB	CB	UB			Below 9000 ft.
Traill's Flycatcher	Wa	UB	UB	UB		(Little F.)	Below 9000 ft.
Least Flycatcher	Ww;Bo	RMS					
Hammond's Flycatcher	Tpsa	UM	UB	UB			
Wright's Flycatcher	Tpsa;Bo	UM	UB	UB			
Gray Flycatcher	Tj	UB	UB				
Western Flycatcher	E;Tc(Bcr)	UM	CB	CB			
Eastern Pewee	Ww;Fg	str					East
Western Pewee	Ww;Cs;Tpja	CM;UB	CB	CB	UB		
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Tslp;Ww	UM	UB	UB	UB		
Vermilion Flycatcher	Ww	str					Fall
Horned Lark	Pd;At	AP	CP	-	-	CB	
Violet-green Swallow	Tc;Rc(Wl)	CM	CB	CB	UB		
Tree Swallow	Tc(Wl)	UM	UB	UB	UB		
Bank Swallow	E(Wls)	CB	UB				East
Rough-winged Swallow	E;Rc(Wls)	CB	UB				
Barn Swallow	Fb(Wls;Pi)	CB	CB	UB			Bridges & culverts
Cliff Swallow	Rc;Fb(Wls;Pi)	AB	CB	UB			
Purple Martin	Fb;E(Wl)	UB	UB				West & extreme NE
Gray Jay	Tca	str	RW	CP	CP	US	(Canada, Rky. Mtn. J.)
Blue Jay	Ww;Cs	CB	RS				East
Steller's Jay	Tpdc	UW	CP	CP	UB		
Scrub Jay	Bo;Tj(Ww;Bc)	CP	CP				(Calif.,Woodhouse's Jay)
Black-billed Magpie	Ww;Pi;Fg;Tp;Bo	AP	CP	US	UF	UF	(American Magpie)
Common Raven	Rc(Tc;At)	UW	UW	UP	UP	UB	(American Raven)
White-necked Raven	Pd;Da;Bc	UP	UP				South
American Crow	Ww;Tp(Pi)	CP	UP				Local
Pinon Jay	Tj(T;P)	UVsw	CB	US	US		Wanders, irreg. East
Clark's Nutcracker	Tsp(Tc;P)	RFW	UP	CP	CP	RS	
Black-capped Chickadee	Ww;Cs;Tca;Br	CP	UP	UP			(Long-tailed Chickadee)
Mountain Chickadee	Tca(Ww;Cs)	UW	CP	CP	UP		
Plain Titmouse	Tj(Tp)	UW	CB				
Common Bushtit	Tj;Bo(Ww)	RW	CB				(Lead-colored Bushtit)
White-breasted Nuthatch	Tc;Ww(Cs)	UW	CB	UB	US	(Rocky Mountain Nuthatch)	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Tsdl(Ww;Tjp;Cs)	UMW	UP	UP			
Pygmy Nuthatch	Tpd(WW;Tj)	RW	AP	US			(Black-eared Nuthatch)
Brown Creeper	Tdls(Cs;Tp;Ww)	UW	CBW	CB			(Rocky Mountain Creeper)
American Dipper	Ws	CW	CBW	CB	UB		Swift, rocky streams
House Wren	Ww;Tpja	UB;RW	CB	US	US		

Species	Habitats	OCCURRENCE Life Zones USon	Trans	Can	Hud	A-A	Remarks
Winter Wren	Ww	RMW					
Bewick's Wren	Tj(Ww)	RB	UB				South & West
Carolina Wren	Ww;Cs	str	str				6 sight records
Marsh Wren	Wc	UM;RBW	UB				(Long-billed Marsh Wren)
Sedge Wren (Short-billed M.W.)	Wm	str	str				San Luis Valley
Canyon Wren	Rc	RP	CP	UF	UF		
Rock Wren	Rot(Ww)	CM;UB;RW	CB;RW	UB	UB	UB	
Mockingbird	Ww;Fg	UBM;RW	US				
Catbird	Ww;Bco	UB	UB				Most common extreme East
Brown Thrasher	Ww;Bco	UB	RB				East, esp. extreme East
Long-billed Thrasher	Tj;Bo	str	str				(Sennett's Thr.) Southeast
Bendire's Thrasher	Dc	str					Southwest
Sage Thrasher	Bso(P;Bc)	CM;UB	CBM				
American Robin							
Eastern	Ww;Cs	UM					East
Western	Ww;Cs;Tca;Bc	AB;UW	CB;UW	UB;UW	UB	USF	
Varied Thrush	Tc		str				West
Wood Thrush	Cs;Ww	str					East
Hermit Thrush	Tdlsp(Ww;Cs)	CM	UB	CB	US		
Swainson's Thrush	Wa;Tsl(Ww;Cs)	CM	UM	UB			(Olive-backed Thrush)
Veery (Willow Thrush)	Wwa	UM	UB	US			
Common Bluebird (Eastern)	Fg;Ww	RMSW	RS				
Mexican Bluebird (Western)	Tpj(Ww;Ts)	UMW	CB;RW				Winters SW
Mountain Bluebird	Tc;Fb(P)	AM;UBW	UB	CB	UB	CF	Winters South
Wheatear	--		str				1 questionable record
Townsend's Solitaire	Tps(Ww;Cs;Tj)	UW	CW;UB	CB	CB	US	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Tj(Ww)	UMB	CB				(Western Gnatcatcher)
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Ts(Tdl;Ww;Cs)	RMW	CW	UB	UB		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Tdls(Tp;Ww;Cs)	RW;UM	CMB	CB	CB		
Water Pipit	At(Pi;Wsl)	CM;UW	CM	-	-	AB	(American Pipit)
Sprague's Pipit	Pd	UM?	(Rec. Laramie, Wyo., Spr & Fall. Prob NE)				
Bohemian Waxwing	Tc;Ww;Cs	UW	UW	UW	UW;RS		Irregular
Cedar Waxwing	Ww;Cs;Fg	UW;RB	RB				Irregular
Gray Shrike	Ww;Cs;Fg;P;B	UW	UW		(Northern (NW) Shrike)		Irreg.
Loggerhead Shrike	Ww;B;Tj;Fg(Pg)	UB;RW	UB	US	UF	UF	(White-rumped S.)
Common Starling	Ww;Csu;Fb(Pi)	CP	UB				Introduced
Bell's Vireo	Ww	UB					East
Gray Vireo	Fg;Tj	str					South
Yellow-throated Vireo	Ww	str					East
Solitary Vireo							
Plumbeous	Tpj;Bo	UM	CB	UB			
Cassin's	Ww;Cs	RM					
Red-eyed Vireo	Ww;Cs	UB	UB				East
Warbling Vireo	Tac;Cs	UB	CB				
Black and White Warbler	Ww	RM					East
Prothonotary Warbler	Ww	str					2 records (1 sight) East
Swainson's Warbler	Ww	str					1 record, SE
Golden-winged Warbler	Ww	str					1 record (Yuma) NE
Brewster's Warbler (hybrid)	Ww	str					1 sight record, 1955, NE
Tennessee Warbler	Ww;Cs	RM	RM				
Orange-crowned Warbler	Ww;Cs	CM	CM	UM			May breed, Trans. & Can.
Nashville Warbler	Ww;Cs	RM					(Calaveras Warbler)
Virginia's Warbler	Tjp;Bccr	UM	CB				
Lucy's Warbler	Bm	UB					Southwest
Parula Warbler	Ww	RM					East
Yellow Warbler	Wwa;Cs	AB	CB	UB			

Species	Habitats	OCCURRENCE Life Zones USon	Trans	Can	Hud	A-A	Remarks
Magnolia Warbler	Ww	RM					East
Cape May Warbler	Ww	str					East
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Ww	str	str				East
Myrtle Warbler	Ww;Cs;Tc	CM;RW	UM	UM	RM		Winters SE
Audubon's Warbler	Tpdls(Ww;Cs)	AM;RW	AB	CB	CB		
Black-throated Gray Warbler	Tjp(Ww)	UM	CB	str			West & SW
Townsend's Warbler	Ww;Cs;Tc	UM	CM	UM			
Black-throated Green Warbler	Ww	str					East
Cerulean Warbler	Ww	str					2 records, East
Blackburnian Warbler	Ww	str					East
Grace's Warbler	Tps;Bo		CB	UB			Southwest
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Ww;Cs	RM					East
Bay-breasted Warbler	Ww;Cs	str					East, 1 record,1933,NE
Black-polled Warbler	Ww	RM					East
Palm Warbler	Ww;Cs	str					East
Ovenbird	Bo;Tp(Ww;Cs)	UM	UB				East (local)
Small-billed Waterthrush	Wws	UM	UM	RM			(Northern or Grinnell's W)
Connecticut Warbler	Ww	str					1 record, East
Macgillivray's Warbler	Br;Wa(Ww;Cs)	CM	CB	CB	US		
Common Yellowthroat	Wca(Pi)	CB	UB				(Western Yellowthroat)
Yellow-breasted Chat	Ww;Bor	UB	UB				(Long-tailed Chat)
Hooded Warbler	Ww	str					East
Pileolated Warbler	Wa(Ww;Cs)	CM	CM	CB	CB	UB	
Canada Warbler	Ww	str					East
American Redstart	Ww	UM;RB	UM;RB				
House Sparrow	Csu;Fbg	AP	CP	UP			(English S.) Introduced
Bobolink	Pi;Wm	US	US				North
Eastern Meadowlark	Pgi	RS					East
Western Meadowlark	Pgid	AB;CW	CB	US	UF	UF	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	Wc(Pi)	AB;RW	CB	UB			(Cattails, with open water)
Red-winged Blackbird	Wca(Wml;Pi)	AB;CW	CB	CB			
Orchard Oriole	Ww	CS					Extreme East
Baltimore Oriole	Ww	CS					Extreme East
Bullock's Oriole	Ww;Cs;Fg	CB	UB	RS	RS		
Rusty Blackbird	Wbs	UMW					
Brewer's Blackbird	Ww;Cs(Pi)	AB;UW	UB	US	UF	UF	
Crow Blackbird	Ww;Cs	CM;UB;RW	RM				(Bronzed Grackle) East
Brown-headed Cowbird	Ww;Fg(Pi)						Most common East
Western Tanager	Tpjds(Ww;Cs;Fg)	CM	CB	UB			
Scarlet Tanager	Ww;Cs	str	str				East
Summer Tanager	Ww;Cs	str					East
Cardinal	Ww;Cs	RB					East
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Ww;Cs	str					East
Black-headed Grosbeak	Ww;Cs;Tc	CB	UB	RS	RS		(Rocky Mountain Grosb.)
Blue Grosbeak	Ww;B	UB					South & East
Indigo Bunting	Ww;Cs	RB					East
Lazuli Bunting	Ww;Bor	CB	UB				
Dickcissel	Pi	RS					East
Evening Grosbeak	Ww;Cs;Tc	CMW;US	UW;RS	UW;RS			Irregular
Purple Finch (Eastern)	Ww;Cs	str					East
Cassin's Finch	Tps(Ww;Br)	UMW	CW;UB	UB			
House Finch	Csu;Ww;Tj(Pi)	AP	US	RS			
Pine Grosbeak	Tc(Ww;Cs)	RW	UW	UP	UP		
Gray-crowned Rosy Finch							
Hepburn's	Rc;Tc;Pdg	UW	UW	UW	UW		
Common	Rc;Tc;Pdg	UW	UW	UW	UW		

Species	Habitats	OCCURRENCE Life Zones USon	Trans	Can	Hud	A-A	Remarks
Black Rosy Finch	Rc;Tc;Pdg	RW	RW	RW	RW		
Brown-capped Rosy Finch	Rc;Tc;Pdg	UW	UW	UW	UW	CB	
Common Redpoll	Wa;Pdg	RVw	RVw	RVw			North, irregular
Pine Siskin	Tc(Ww;Cs;B)	CW;US	CP	CP	UB		Irreg. abundance
Common Goldfinch	Ww(Tc)	UB;CW	UP				(American Goldfinch)
Lesser Goldfinch	Ww;Cs;B	CB;RW	UB				(Arkansas Goldfinch)
Red Crossbill	Tpsdlj	RW	CP	CP	CP		Irregular
White-winged Crossbill	Tc;Cs	RVw	RVw	RVw	RVw		North
Green-tailed Towhee	Tps;B(Ww)	CM	UB	UB			
Spotted Towhee	Boc	UMW	CB;UW				(Arctic & Spurred Towhees)
Brown (Canyon) Towhee	Tj;B	UM	CB	US			Southwest
Lark Bunting	Pdg	ABM	UB				East
Savannah Sparrow	Wm(Pi)	UB	UB	US			
Grasshopper Sparrow	Pg	RB	RB				
Baird's Sparrow	Pg	UM					East
Leconte's Sparrow	Wm	RM					East
Vesper Sparrow	Pdg	AB;RW	CB	US			
Lark Sparrow	Pdg(Tj;Bo)	CB	CB	US	RS	RS	
Rufous-crowned Sparrow	Pdg	str					Southeast
Cassin's Sparrow	Pd;Bm	RB	RB				
Black-throated Sparrow	Dac	UB					(Desert S.) South & West
Sage Sparrow	Bs(Pd)	UB					West
White-winged Junco	Tp;Bro;Pd	UW	CW;RB				East
Slate-colored Junco	Ww;Bro	CW	UW	UW			East
Oregon Junco	Bro;Ww;Cs;Tc						
Shufeldt's		UW	UW	UW			
Montana		UW	UW	UW			
Pink-sided		AW	CW	CW			
Gray-headed Junco	Tc(Ww;Bro)	UW;CM	CP	CB;UW	CB		
Red-backed Junco	Tpj;Br		str				Southwest
American Tree Sparrow	Ww;Bro	AW	CW	UW			
Chipping Sparrow	Tpj(Ww;Cs)	UB;CM	CBM	US			
Clay-colored Sparrow	Bc;Pd	CM;UB	UBM				Salt Brush flats
Brewer's Sparrow	Tp;Bc(Ww)	CM	CB				Mountain Mahogany
Field Sparrow	Ww;Pi	str					East
Harris's Sparrow	Ww;Br	UW	UW				East
White-crowned Sparrow							
Eastern	Wa;Aw(Ww;Boc)	CWM	CM;UW	UB	CB	UB	
Gambel's	Ww;Boc	CWM	CM;UW				
Golden-crowned Sparrow	Ww	str					West
White-throated Sparrow	Ww;Br	RMW	RM	str			East
Fox Sparrow	Ww;Bro	RMW	RMW	RM			
Lincoln's Sparrow	Wa(Ww;Br)	CM	CM	CB	CB		
Swamp Sparrow	Wc	RW	str				East
Song Sparrow	Wcab(Ww;Br)	CP	UB	UB			
McCown's Longspur	Pd	UBM					East, breeds NE
Lapland Longspur	Pd	CWM	UW	UW			(Alaska Longspur) East
Chestnut-collared Longspur	Pd	CWM;UB	UWM				Breeds NE
Snow Bunting	Pdg	RW					Northeast

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COLORADO BIRD NOTES

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SPRING TRIP TO BEAR RIVER MARSHES

By John & Margaret Douglass

Between the 15th and the 24th of March we took a trip into Utah to visit the Bear River Marshes. Perhaps some of our records will be interesting:

On March 16 we drove from Granby through Middle Park and over Rabbit Ears Pass to Steamboat Springs. All of Middle Park is above 7,500 feet and there were several feet of snow on the level and many deep drifts. Although the temperature had been dropping below zero every night for weeks, it stayed a little above on the night of the fifteenth. The day was clear; a little breeze was blowing. In Middle Park we saw:

1. Horned Lark - about 454 in 15 groups
2. American Magpie - 27 in 18 occurrences
3. American Raven (1)
4. Crow (2)
5. Townsend's Solitaire (1)
6. Starling (8)
7. House Sparrow (1)
8. Rosy Finch -about 11,125 in 11 groups. There were as many as 1,000 in a flock. Most of the finches were Gray-crowns,but there were also very large numbers of Blacks and a few Hepburns. We didn't see any Brown-caps. In Kremmling the Rosy Finches were thickerthan English Sparrows around a grain elevator and they were acting almost like sparrows. We saw them in almost every street and yard. Blacks were especially numerous.
9. Oregon Junco (2)
10. White-winged Junco (2)

There was too much blowing snow on Muddy and Rabbit Ears Passes for us to see any birds at all. However, when we drove through the Yampa Valley between Steamboat Springs and Craig we saw many birds. The snow was heavy here too, especially around Steamboat. On the streets of Steamboat, in fact, they are using red flags on the radio antennas of the cars so that the motorists can see each other coming between the snow banks. In the Yampa Valley we saw Red-tailed Hawks, a Harris, Down Woodpeckers, Horned Larks, Steller's Jays, American Magpies, Crows, Black-capped Chickadees, American Robins - a great many, Mountain Bluebirds, Cedar Waxwings (8), House Sparrows, Western Meadowlarks, Red-winged Blackbirds, Juncos and a Song Sparrow.

In the dry sagebrush country west of Craig there was less snow, but there was enough to make the sagebrush flats into one grand mud puddle. Nearer the Utah border there was neither snow nor sagebrush. In four hours driving along the 92 miles between Craig and the border we saw many hawks and eagles, especially in the sagebrush country. We found 8 Red-tails, 12 Rough-legs, 14 Golden Eagles, 2 unidentified Buteos, and 2 Harrises. Surprisingly enough we also found the bodies of two Great Horned Owls which had been killed on the highway. The only trees anywhere near were some dwarf cedars miles from where we found the owls. The other birds along the road included Horned Larks, three Ravens, several Mountain Bluebirds, and a Red-wing. We saw Mountain Bluebirds even in the most desert stretches.

On the 18th of March we found a flock of about 75 Sage Grouse in the hilly country east of Heber, Utah. Later in the day we found an early migrant, a Ring-necked Duck, on Deer Creek Reservoir south of Heber. There were also Canada Geese, Mallard, many American Widgeon, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Redheads, and a great many American Mergansers on the small area of clear water where the ice had melted out of the reservoir. Some other Utah records include: Pied-billed Grebe (2) near Logan, March 22 and Clark's Nutcracker (3) in Logan proper at an altitude of 4535 ft. These Nutcrackers, and also the ones we saw in outside cages in the Tracy Aviary in Salt Lake City,were extremely dark gray -- so dark, in fact, that I did not recognize what they were immediately. The birds we saw later in the higher country of Logan Canyon looked quite normal.

Our destination in Utah was the Bear River Marshes at the head of the Great Salt Lake; they proved to be a paradise for water birds. The Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge is located 15 miles west of Brigham, Utah,on the delta of the Bear River. It's a big refuge -- about 65,000 acres. Established in 1928, the refuge is administered by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service both as a nesting area and as a resting and feeding place for migratory waterfowl. It is divided into five separate units. An intricate system of canals and dikes maintains the water at a desirable level and holds it out of the salty lake water. Food and cover plants for the waterfowl have been planted and allowed to spread till the refuge has become an almost ideal habitat. Over the years 198 species of birds have been recorded on the refuge, and about 60 are known to nest there. During migration hoards of birds visit the marshes. In early September the refuge may contain as many as 1½ to 2 million waterfowl. Spring migrants aren't as numerous, but there are still vast numbers of swans, geese, ducks and shorebirds. We were, of course, too early for the shore bird migrations. We had come to see another of the refuge's outstanding attractions -- the Whistling Swans -- and we weren't disappointed. As we drove along the oiled road from Brigham City to the refuge headquarters, we passed many little ponds and sloughs belonging to duck clubs. On one of these little ponds we saw six swans; then, on another, there were forty. When we got to the refuge headquarters, we stopped to obtain permission to drive around the dike of one ofthe units, the South Bay. We asked about swans. "Oh, yes" was the reply, "there are a few swans around -- about 7,000." We spent that day (March 20) and most of the 21st watching those swans and the other water birds. Most of the swans were in the large pools -- feeding, swimming, sleeping, or calling to one another. The noise of their musical cries would almost die away for a few minutes. Then two swans which were close to each other would stretch their necks out and begin to "whistle"; usually one or two others joined the conversation. Then another group on the opposite side of the pond would take up the cry. The calls mounted to a crescendo and then diminished until the whole group was silent again. As we drove along, the swans usually kept well away from the dike where we were driving. Occasionally we would surprise a small group near the bank,and they'd take off with much splashing and crying. Their take-off was clumsy, but once airborne they flow with slow and easy grace.

While we were watching one large group of Whistlers an airplane flew over. It wasn't flying low, and we scarcely noticed it until we heard a rustle of wings to the north of us. There, about a half mile away, the sky was covered with shining white wings. A flock of about 10,000 Snow Geese rose from the marsh like a flurry of giant snowflakes. They wheeled beneath a cloud shadow and suddenly became gray. Then they turned again with wonderful precision until we could see the whole flock with their white wing tipped with black outlined against the sky. They circled around a few minutes and then settled close together on the marsh. With each airplane's passing the geese would rise and circle again. Never had we seen anything to match the beauty of those great birds wheeling against the clear blue sky.

There were lots of Canada Geese in the marshes -- already pairing; and there were lots of ducks. Pintails were by far the most common species; they are the most numerous duck in the marshes. Sometimes in the fall migration flights their numbers

exceed half a million birds. We also saw many Mallards, Gadwalls, Green-winged Teal, Widgeon, Shovelers, and American Mergansers. We found one Cinnamon Teal and a single Red-breasted Merganser. A group of Bufflehead provided us with an amusing show. There were six dapper drakes and onemodestly garbed little female. Apparently the little lady really had it; for her retinue was in active competition. Every time she'd fly, all the drakes would come dashing after her, quite oblivious to us or to anything but the fair lady. When she lighted, they did so too, and immediately began flapping their wings, throwing their heads back, and splashing wildly. When she dived, they would either follow or wait expectantly until she popped up and then rush toward her. Usually two ardent males would meet en route and begin a battle of bills and wings while their lady love paddled off with a rival or dove again to finish her feeding.

Water birds, other than swans, ducks, and geese weren't too numerous. We saw a couple of Western Grebes, many Great Blue Herons, Coots, Killdeer, and Ring-billed Gulls. There were some Herring Gulls, a few Avocets, and three or four Greater Yellow-legs. (This was the first date for Greater Yellow-legs- March 20.) Marsh Hawks were common and were building nests. We also saw several Rough-legs, Golden Eagles, and Short-eared Owls. The 19 species of land birds which we found included Bank Swallows, a Yellow-headed Blackbird, and both Savannah and Vesper Sparrows.

Just before we left the marshes, we climbed up the 100-foot observation tower at headquarters. Even from this vantage we couldn't see the end of the shining ponds. Nearby there was a pool spotted with sleeping swans. A group of six more big white Whistlers flew by us crying as they passed. Some of the ducks rose and settled and rose again. Soon most of them would be gone to the more northern waters, and the marshes would be host to other hordes of passing waterfowl and shore birds. Many of the birds will return again to this haven of sky and water. We will return too. There are changes on the face of the marshes and we want to see all of them as they follow the changing year. Besides we can't forget how the great white swans turn gold as they fly between the Wasatch and the setting sun or how a cloud of Snow Geese rises and turns with thousands of synchronized, shining wings.

BIRDS OF THE MONTH

By Donald M. Thatcher

May 16, 1956 - Although the Spring migration appeared last month to be somewhat later than that of last year, nearly all arrivals of the past few weeks have been earlier than those of a year ago. Following are the gleanings of several hundred reports, including a number of very unusual species.

Contributors: D. Alexander, J. Arnold, H. Bell, Boulder Bird Club, P. Caswell, Mrs. C. N.Collister, C. Crone, L. Crowley, J. & M. Douglass, D. D'Ostillio, R. Glover, H. Griffin, C. A. Knorr, R. Lamb, Mrs. J. Lett, L. J. Lyon, T. Marsh, D. Rice, C. Royal, B. Sullivan, D. Thatcher. (*Colorado Bird Club scheduled trips.)

Western Grebe - first 4 4/20 Windsor (JD,MD); 5 4/22 Boulder (DA, LC) (1st 1955,4/24)
Pied-billed Grebe - 1 4/21 Sterling (RL); 1 4/22 Denver (DA,LC); 3 4/29 Ft. Collins (JD,MD)
White Pelican - 18 4/22, 2 5/5 Windsor (JD,MD); 14 5/5*; 5/9, 13 (DT,RG) Marston-Bowles Lakes
Double-Crested Cormorant - 3 4/20, 50 4/21 Sterling (RL) (1st 1955, 4/9/55)
Snowy Egret - 2 4/12 Boulder (BS); 1 4/21 Sterling(RL); 1 4/22 Boulder (DA,LC); 27 5/5 at rookery near Longmont (JD,MD)
Green Heron - 4/27 NE Colorado (LJL)
Black-crowned Night Heron - 1 4/15 Tule Lake, Littleton*; 1 4/17 SE Denver (TM); 1 4/18 Platteville (Mrs. JL); 6 4/21 Sterling(RL); 40 5/5 at rookery, near Loveland (JD,MD)

American Bittern - 1 (dead) 4/22 Windsor (JD,MD)(1st 1955 4/18)
Glossy Ibis (Eastern) - 11 5/3 Boulder (DA,AK,LC)
White-faced Ibis - 1 4/28 Longmont (Mrs. CNC,JA); 2 4/29 Barr Lake* (1st 1955 4/30)
Snow Goose - 1 4/21 Sterling (RL); 7 (all in immature plumage) 4/29 Barr Lake*
Cinnamon Teal - 2 4/29 Morrison (PC); 4 4/29 Barr Lake* (1st 1955 4/29)
Red-breasted Merganser - 6 4/22 Marston Lake (DA,LC)
Turkey Vulture - 2 4/20 Loveland (JD,MD); 4/20 Boulder (BS) (1st 1955 4/13)
Swainson's Hawk - 4/9 NE Colorado (LJL); 1 4/19 Sterling(RL); 2 4/21 building nest, Sterling (RL)
Golden Eagle - nest, 1 young, 1 egg 4/29 near Ft. Collins (LC,DD)
Osprey - 1 4/22 Marston Lake (DA,LC); 1 4/28 Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Scaled Quail - 2 5/5 near Wellington (introduced) (JD,MD)
Sandhill Crane - 1 5/5 near Ft. Collins (JD,MD)
Ringed Plover - 3 4/22 Windsor (JD,MD); 1 5/3 Boulder (DA,AK,LC)
Mountain Plover - 3 4/28 Laramie, Wyoming (DA,LC)
Black-bellied Plover - Longmont 5/5 (Mrs. CNC)
Long-billed Curlew - 2 4/19,20 Sterling (RL); 1 4/25 Windsor, 1 4/29 Longmont (JD,MD)
Spotted Sandpiper - 4/28 Longmont (Mrs. CNC); 1 5/5 Barr Lake (DR); 1 5/5,9 Boulder (DA,LC); (1st 1955 4/18)
Solitary Sandpiper - 2 Ft. Collins, 3 Wellington 5/5 (JD,MD)
Willet- 1 4/21 Franktown (TM); 3 4/26 Boulder (BBC); 3 4/28 Longmont (Mrs. CNC); 5 4/29 vicinity Ft. Collins (JD,MD)
Greater Yellowlegs- 1 4/8 Loveland, 23 4/14 between Wellington & Windsor (JD,MD); 1 4/22 Boulder (DA,LC)
Lesser Yellowlegs - 2 4/19 Sterling (RL); 10 Windsor, 2 Loveland 4/22 (JD,MD) (1st 1955 4/20)
Pectoral Sandpiper - 1 4/29 Laramie, Wyoming (DA,AK,LC)
Dowitcher - 7 4/22 Windsor (JD,MD); 70 5/3 Boulder (DA,LC); (1st 1955 4/30)
Western Sandpiper -2 4/22 Windsor (JD,MD)
Marbled Godwit - 1 4/22 Marston Lake (DA,LC); 6 4/28 Longmont (JA,Mrs.CNC)
Black-necked Stilt - 1 4/29 Barr Lake*
Wilson's Phalarope - 3 4/21 Sterling (RL); 6 4/22 Denver (DA,LC); 40 5/3 Boulder (DA,LC); 250 5/5 near Ft. Collins (JD,MD) (1st 1955 4/30)
California Gull - 11 5/6 Boulder (CC)
Bonaparte's Gull - 30 4/22 near Ft. Collins (JD,MD)
Forster's Tern - 1 4/28 Longmont (JA,Mrs.CNC); 13 4/30 Two Buttes Reservoir (Baca Co.) (DR); 5 5/4 Loveland (JD,MD)
Black Tern - 1 5/7 Boulder (DA,LC); 1 5/13 Johnson Lake (Littleton) (DT,RG)
Poor-will - 1 (banded and released) 5/6 Boulder (DA,LC)
Chimney Swift - 1 5/14, 1 5/15 Denver (TM)
Broad-tailed Hummingbird - 2 5/12 Evergreen (TM); 1 5/12 Denver (DT) (1st 1955 5/13)
Red-naped Common Sapsucker - 2 4/22 Gold Hill (Boulder Co.) (DA,LC)
Williamson's Sapsucker - males 3/24,25 Evergreen (TM) (1st 1955 4/16)
Ladder-backed Woodpecker - 1 4/30 Baca County(DR)
Eastern Kingbird - 1 5/2 Platteville (Mrs. JL); 1 5/6 near Ft. Collins (JD,MD)
Cassin's Kingbird - 1 5/6 near Ft. Collins (JD,MD)
Crested Flycatcher - 1 4/30 Baca County (DR)
Ash-throated Flycatcher - 1 4/24,25 (DR); 1 5/1 (CR) Denver Federal Center
Eastern Phoebe - 4/21 Berthoud (JA); 1 4/30 Baca County (DR)
Violet-green Swallow - first 1 4/21 Sterling (RL) (1st 1955 5/8/55)
Tree Swallow - 3 4/29 Barr Lake*; 4/28 Longmont (Mrs. CNC)
Bank Swallow - 4/28 Longmont (Mrs. CNC)
Rough-winged Swallow - 2 4/26 Boulder (BBC) (1st 1955 4/27)
Cliff Swallow - 4/28 Longmont (Mrs. CNC); (1st 1955 5/15)
Horned Lark - nest, 2 eggs 4/28 Laramie, Wyoming (DA,LC)
Clark's Nutcracker - flock 200 plus 4/17 Boulder (LC); 10 5/9,12 Genesee Mountain Park (DT)
House Wren - 1 4/19 Boulder (CC); 3 5/3 Boulder (LC); (1st 1955 4/24)
Marsh Wren - 4/29 N. Golden (HB); 1 4/29 Barr Lake*
Mockingbird - 2 5/6, 6 5/8 Platteville (Mrs. JL)
Catbird - 1 4/19 Boulder (CC)

Brown Thrasher - 1 5/6 Platteville*
Hermit Thrush - 1 5/6 Platteville*; 1 5/5 Boulder (LC) (1st 1955 4/24)
Swainson's Thrush - 3 5/11 Boulder (LC) (1st 1955 5/7)
Water Pipit - 1 4/21 Denver (DT)
Cedar Waxwing - 30 4/23 to 5/10 Boulder (LC)
Loggerhead Shrike - 25 4/29 Laramie to Ft. Collins (DA,DD,LC); 16 4/30 Platteville to Loveland (27 miles) (Mrs. JL); "Very common last week of April" NE Colorado (LJL)
Bell's Vireo - 2 4/20 Sterling (RL)
Warbling Vireo - 1 5/12 vicinity Littleton (PC)
Orange-crowned Warbler - 4/28 Longmont (JA, Mrs.CNC); 1 5/5 Red Rocks (DT); 7 5/5 near Ft. Collins (JD,MD)
Virginia's Warbler - 1 5/5,13 Red Rocks Park (DT); 5 5/13 Boulder (CC)
Yellow Warbler - 5/5 Longmont (Mrs.CNC); 6 5/5, common by 5/10 Boulder (LC); several 5/6 Denver (TM,DT); 6 5/8 Platteville (Mrs. JL); 5/8 Ft. Collins (JD,MD)
Myrtle Warbler - 1 4/19 Sterling (RL); 3 4/22 Boulder (LC,DA); 4/28 near Golden (HB)
Audubon's Warbler - 1 4/19 Sterling (RL); 1 4/22 Boulder (DA,LC); 1 4/22 Windsor (JD,MD); 7 4/23 Boulder (CC)
Chestnut-sided Warbler - 1 5/11 Boulder (LC)
Black-poll Warbler - 1 5/5 Boulder (LC)
Ovenbird - 1 5/11 Boulder (LC)
Small-billed Waterthrush - 1 5/5 Barr L. (DR); 5/5 Longmont (Mrs.CNC); 1 5/11 Boulder (LC)
Macgillivray's Warbler - 2 5/6 Platteville*; 1 5/5 Red Rocks Park (DT)
Common Yellowthroat - 4/29 near Golden (HB); 5/5 several reports
Yellow-breasted Chat - 1 5/11 Boulder (LC)
Pileolated Warbler - 5/6 Golden (HB)
Brewer's Blackbird - 1st 4/20 N.E. Colorado (LJL); first large flock 4/25 Windsor (JD, MD)
Bullock's Oriole - 2 5/9 Platteville (Mrs.JL); 5/13 Longmong (Mrs.CNC); 2 5/13 Red Rocks Park (RG,DT)
Cowbird - 4 5/1 Platteville (Mrs. JL)
Western Tanager - 5/7 Longmont (Mrs.CNC); 1 5/8 Boulder (LC); 1 5/9 Genesee Mountain Park (DT)
Black-headed Grosbeak - 1 5/11 Boulder (LC); 2 5/15 S.E. Denver (TM)
Lazuli Bunting - 1 5/5 Ft. Collins (JD,MD); 5/5 Longmont (Mrs. CNC); 2 5/13 Boulder
Evening Grosbeak - Reported in large numbers through April to present (5/16) at Morrison, Denver, Boulder, Longmont, etc. (CC)
Green-tailed Towhee - 4/15 Paonia, scarce this year (HG); 2 4/30 S.E. Denver (TM); 1 5/2 Ft. Collins (JD,MD)
Spotted Towhee - 1st 1 4/22 Sterling (RL); 1 5/6 Platteville*
Lark Bunting - 2 5/13 Boulder (CC)
Savannah Sparrow - 1 5/3,4 Boulder (DA,LC)
Vesper Sparrow - 1st 4/17 N.E. Colorado (LJL); 4 4/21 Daniels Park (TM); 4/26 Paonia (HG)
Lark Sparrow - 2 4/19 Sterling (RL); 4/28 Longmont (Mrs. CNC,JA); 10 4/30 Platteville
Baird's Sparrow - 4/28 Longmont (JA,Mrs.CNC); 1 4/29 near Ft. Collins (JD,MD) (Mrs.JL)
Slate-colored Junco - late 4/28 Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Oregon Junco - Pink-sided, last 1 5/6 Platteville; Shufeldt's (?) last 2 4/10 Platteville (Mrs. JL), 4/28 Longmont (Mrs. CNC)
Gray-headed Junco - 2 4/20 Sterling (RL)
Chipping Sparrow - 4/13 Paonia (HG); 3 4/18 Denver (TM); 1 4/23 (most) 20 5/7 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Clay-colored Sparrow - 1 5/4 Loveland (JD,MD); 2 5/5 Ft. Collins (JD,MD); 3 5/7 Platteville (Mrs. JL)
Brewer's Sparrow - 1 5/1 Platteville (Mrs. JL); 2 5/4 Denver (TM); 5/5 Longmont (Mrs. CNC); 1 5/5 Ft. Collins (JD,MD); 8 5/5 Boulder (LC)
Harris's Sparrow - 4/28 Longmont (JA,Mrs. CNC); 2 5/1 Two Buttes Res. (DR)
White-crowned Sparrow - Eastern, 18 4/7 last, after being present all winter, Platteville (Mrs. JL); Gambel's, first 2 4/13, 150 (most) 4/30 Platteville (Mrs.JL), first 4/27 N.E. Colorado (LJL), 163 5/6 Boulder (CC)
Golden-crowned Sparrow - 1 5/1 (with White-crowned & Harris's Sparrows) Two Buttes Res.
Lincoln's Sparrow - 2 5/6*, 6 5/9 (Mrs. JL) Platteville (DR)
Chestnut-collared Longspur - 4/9 N.E. Colorado (LJL)
Moraine Park, Rocky Mtn. Natl. P. elev. 8500 ft. (Canadian life zone) May 6 - Say's Phoebe (3), Eastern Kingbird (1), House Wren (2), Loggerhead Shrike (3), Green-tailed Towhee (1), Harris's Sparrow (1) (JD,MD)

ELDONA NOTES

By Howard Rollin

May 13, 1956- Bird migration this past momth has been about normal, and is in sharp contrast to that of a year ago when the severe drouth affected all bird life so drastically. The rain of Apr. 28-29, nearly an inch, has greened up all hills and plains in contrast to a year ago when all was still brown or gray. Last year the rains did not come until the last of May and there was no fall or winter snow such as we had this past season. Some migrants came quite early this year and others were just about normal. So far no unusual birds have been noted, except perhaps one Curlew seen and heard April 21 was a Hudsonian Whimbrel. It was much smaller than the usual Long-billed Curlew and the note was different, though still "curlew".

Following is a list of first or last dates and other migration data:

Mallard - 4/30 - the only duck seen this spring along the creek.
Sparrow Hawk - 2 4/13, none seen since that date.
Swainson's Hawk - 2 first 4/23, again 4/28: remains scarce.
Golden Eagle - not nesting on site on the "High Hill" but fequent the canyons.
Marsh Hawk - remains scarce.
Ring-necked Pheasant - first here 1 5/2, still here.
Killdeer - present but scarce.
Long-billed Curlew - 4 4/25.
Solitary Sandpiper - 2 4/25.
Mourning Dove - common by 5/2, is unusually common this year.
Horned Owl young on the wing at this date.
Barn Owl - first one 5/2, again 5/5, and is back in the old nesting site.
Red-shafted Flicker-one 4/12, none seen since.
Western Kingbird - first one 5/6, again 5/7, remains here.
Say's Phoebe - common by 4/23; although started to fix nest first of April, did not complete at once and first egg laid 5/9.
Horned Lark - commonly performing flight song, and young on the wing 5/10.
Rough-wing Swallow - first one 4/29, again 5/10, remains.
Magpie - nesting, but not as common as formerly.
Amer. Crow - seen occassionally.
Rock Wren - common by 4/16.
Mockingbird - first one 4/30 (an average date); again 5/2, singing; com on 5/8.
Sage Thrasther - first one 4/14, again 4/30; singing 5/3.
Robin - very few.
Loggerhead Shrike - common 5/3.
Starlings - very few, one or two come and go.
Black-capped Warbler - first 2 5/12.
Myrtle Warbler - first one 5/3, few.
House Sparrow - few about buildings.
Western Meadowlark - very common this year; young on the wing 5/4.
Yellow-headed Blackbird - first 15 (9 males, 6 females) 5/1, again 5/2, and seen occasionally since.
Red-wing Blackbird - few come and go.
Bullock's Oriole - first one 5/9, again 5/10, (first 1955 5/26.).
Brewer's Blackbird - 12 4/27, about in small numbers.
Cowbird - first female 4/15, again 4/30, common 5/2.
Catbird - first one 4/13 very rare, (first 1955, 4/19)
Green-tailed Towhee - first one 4/30, again 5/7.

Lark Bunting - first male (1) 5/1, again 3 males 5/6, first female 5/10, fairly common 5/11
Grasshopper Sparrow - none seen yet
Savannah Sparrow - first 1 5/3, very rare
Vesper Sparrow - common 4/25, last seen 5/11
Lark Sparrow - about, but rather scarce
Montana Oregon Junco - last 1 4/13
Slate-colored Junco - first 1 4/12, again 4/13, none since
ChippingSparrow - first 1 4/1, again 5/7, a few remain
Clay-colored Sparrow - first 12 4/21, again4/25, common 4/30 and remain in small numbers
Brewer's Sparrow - first 3 4/30, again 4/30, remain in their usual small numbers
White-crowned Sparrow - again about after being absent for some time, 2 4/12, common 4/25, numerous by 5/13, singing commonly to present
Song Sparrow - about again, 1 4/30, last 5/3
McCown's Longspur - first 2 4/13, common 4/14 (last date); was very uncommon this spring
Chestnut-collared Longspur - again, 1 4/23, just two were seen this spring (other 4/4) though undoubtedly many more would be seen if time permitted a more careful search

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BIRDING IN NEW MEXICO AND ARIZONA

by D. M. Thatcher

Some notes on a nine-day trip to New Mexico and southern Arizona, March 23 to April 1, may be of interest to others planning such a trip.

Leaving Denver late in the afternoon, Friday, March 23, we spent the night at Walsenburg, then drove on Saturday to Gallup, New Mexico, via La Veta Pass, Fort Garland, Santa Fe and Albuquerque. The most interesting wildlife that day was a small Prairie Dog colony at the state line, south of Fort Garland.

Next day, we found many White-necked Ravens and Horned Larks in the open country west of Gallup. At the Petrified Forest National Monument, on the edge of the Painted Desert, there were House Sparrows, House Finches, two Say's Phoebes, a stray Song Sparrow and a dead Evening Grosbeak. South of there, near Show Low we saw a flock of 50 or more wandering Pinon Jays on a hillside. From Show Low, we drove through a heavy Ponderosa Pine forest, much different from the open Colorado Ponderosa Pine stands, then through scenic Salt River Canyon, to Globe.

Monday's first stop was at the Oak Flats Recreation Area on the Tonto National Forest, a few miles west of Globe. A Gambel's Quail, several Verdins, and migrating Myrtle and Audubon's Warblers and Gray-headed Juncos were of most interest here. Next we visited the Boyce Thompson Arboretum, at Superior, where we found many desert birds new to us, and some old friends. The list here included Inca Dove, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Gila and Ladder-backed Woodpeckers, Black Phoebe, Vermilion Flycatcher, Verdin, Cactus Wren, Mockingbird, Curve-billed Thrasher (young in nest), Phainopepla, Cardinal and Abert's Towhee. Next we stopped at the Casa Grande National Monument, an Indian ruin, where there were more Cactus Wrens (nesting), Curve-billed Thrashers, a pair of Mourning Doves and several White-crowned Sparrows.

At Mesa, near Phoenix, there were young Robins out of the nest, six or seven weeks earlier than at Denver. At Phoenix, next day, about the Capitol grounds we found Sparrow Hawk, Inca and Mourning Doves, Gila Woodpecker, Cactus Wren, Mockingbird and a nest-building Abert's Towhee. Other birds at Phoenix included Rough-winged Swallow, one Starling, Cowbird (many), Cardinal and Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow.

At Papago Park, in the Saguaro desert east of the city, we added the Gilded Flicker to the list. Going west from Phoenix, to Gila Bend, the Mourning Dove was the most abundant species; inaddition to about 200, mostly singles or pairs, there were two large flocks, one of about 500 and the other perhaps 2000, feeding at corrals in the desert. We saw also Swainson's and Sparrow Hawks, Turkey Vulture, Loggorhead Shrike and flocks of Brewer's Blackbird.

South from Gila Bend, next day, to Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, we found Black Phoebe, Vermilion Flycatcher, Verdin, and many Phainopeplas. At the monument, we were met just inside the entrance by a pair of Harris's Hawks, one of which perched atop a Saguaro at the roadside, and a short time later saw a third one. Here we added to the list Ash-throated Flycatcher, Plumbeous Gnatcatcher and Scott's Oriole, the last feeding about the red flowers of the Ocotillo.

At Tucson, there were the desert species, some even on the University campus, and there we added the Cedar Waxwing. We made short stops at the Tucson Mountain Park, including the most interesting Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, and the Saguaro National Monument. One last major stop was at the Chiricahua National Monument, an area of unusual rock forms and evergreen oak forest, on Friday, March 30. Here we found, in a very brief visit, many Bridled Titmice, several Arizona Jays, and one each of Acorn and Arizona Woodpeckers. Next day, after we had ceased to expect them, we saw two Road-runners near Albuquerque.

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CHECK LIST CORRECTION

One error of omission has been found in the Distributional Check List published last month. Please add for the Brown-headed Cowbird (page 9) common breeder (CB) under Upper Sonoran life zone and uncommon breeder (UB) under Transition zone.

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PERSONALS

Our sympathy is extended to Catherine Hurlbutt and her family in the loss of her brother.

One of our members, Harry Tyler, is still confined at Presbyterian Hospital with a serious illness. Visitors are limited but cards will be welcomed.

We are happy that Dorothy Kleinschnitz is recovering nicely after recent surgery.

CALENDAR FOR MAY - JUNE - JULY 1956

May
22 (Tues.) 7 PM Ecology discussion
8 PM Regular meeting. Election of officers. Catherine Hurlbutt will present some recent recordings of American bird songs.
Bird Room, Denver Museum of Natural History
(Please use north (employees') entrance)

26 (Sat.) 1 PM Field trip to Castlewood Dam. Sadie Morrison, leader (MA3-0840). Meet at First and Colorado Blvd. (Trans. 75¢)

27 (Sun.) 7 AM Field trip to Deer Creek. John Chapin, leader (SK6-2200). Meet at Alameda in block West of Broadway. (Trans. 75¢)

June
3 (Sun.) 6:30 AM Field trip to Genesee Mountain Park. Donald Thatcher, leader (GL5-7479). Meet at W. Colfax and Sheridan. 1/2 day (Trans. 50¢)

9 (Sat.) 10 AM Field trip to Red Rocks Park and Bax Ranch (Morrison). Ruth Wheeler, leader (GL5-3924). Meet at W. Colfax and Sheridan. Bring lunch. (Trans. 50¢)

10 (Sun.) 6:30 AM Field trip to Weldona and Fort Morgan. Donald Thatcher, leader (GL5-7479). To meet Howard Rollin and Edward Hellstern. Meet at Montview and Colorado Blvd. Bring lunch. (Trans. $1.50)

17 (Sun.) 6:30 AM Field trip to St. Mary's Glacier. John Flavin, leader (SK6-1744) Meet at Main Library, Civic Center. Bring lunch, warm clothing. (Trans. 75¢)

23 (Sat.) 10 AM Field trip to Echo and Summit Lakes. Ruth Wheeler, leader (GL5-3924). Meet at W. Colfax and Sheridan. Bring lunch, warm clothing. (Trans. 75¢)

July
1 (Sun.) 7 AM Field trip to Loveland Pass. Donald Thatcher, leader (GL5-7479). Bring lunch, warm clothing. Meet at W. Colfax and Sheridan. (Trans. $1.00)

7 (Sat.) 7 AM Field trip to Brainard Lake and Mt. Audubon. Ruth Wheeler (GL5-3924). Meet at Main Library, Civic Center. Bring lunch, warm clothing. (Trans. $1.00)

21 (Sat.) 8 AM Field trip to Evans Ranch. Ferd Kleinschnitz, leader (RA2-9041). Meet Main Library, Civic Center. Bring lunch. (Trans. 75¢)

No regular meetings in June, July and August.

Please call leader before field trips, if possible.
Anyone interested is welcome at all meetings and trips.
Transportation is by private cars; amounts above are suggested for those riding with others.

Denver, Colorado

August 29, 1956

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COLORADO BIRD CLUB:

The following is condensed from the Circular of Information for the 74th meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, which you are all invited to attend, including the banquet and field trips.

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SEVENTY-FOURTH STATED MEETING

At the invitation of the Denver Museum of Natural History, the University of Colorado Museum, and the Colorado Bird Club, the American Ornithologists' Union will meet in Denver and Boulder, Colorado, from September 4 to 9, 1956. Hotel headquarters will be at the Shirley-Savoy Hotel, East 17th Avenue and Broadway, Denver, and the business session will be held there, September 4. Public sessions will be held in Phipps Auditorium at the Denver Museum of Natural History in City Park(take No. 40 bus from downtown) on Wednesday, September 5; at the University of Colorado Memorial Center(in the Forum) Thursday, September 6; and at the Denver Museum of Natural History on Friday, September 7. A field trip to the high country is scheduled for Saturday, September 8, and to the Colorado prairie for Sunday, September 9. All programs will run on Mountain time.

REGISTRATION

A registration desk for this meeting will be opened at 1 P.M., Tuesday, September 4, at the Shirley-Savoy Hotel and at Phipps Auditorium beginning at 9 A.M., Wednesday, September 5. A registration fee of $2.00 will be charged.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

TUESDAY, September 4, at Shirley-Savoy Hotel
Business meetings of Council, Fellows, and Elective Members

WEDNESDAY, September 5, at Denver Museum of Natural History

10:00 Papers Session in Phipps Auditorium
2:00 Papers Session in Phipps Auditorium
8:00 Reception for Members and Guests in Phipps Auditorium
8:45 President's Coffee Hour in Small Gallery, Third Floor

THURSDAY, September 6, at University of Colorado, Boulder

10:00 Papers Session in Forum Room, Memorial Building
(bus and private cars from Shirley-Savoy Hotel in Denver)
1-2 P.M. Henderson Museum open for inspection
2:00 Papers Session in Forum Room
7:00 Annual Banquet in Glenn Miller Ball Room(dress informal)
(secure tickets at registration time, $2.50)

FRIDAY, September 7, at Denver Museum of Natural History
9:00 Papers Session in Phipps Auditorium
2:00 Papers Session in Phipps Auditorium

(over)

FIELD TRIPS

SATURDAY, September 8, field trip by bus or private car to the high country of Colorado

SUNDAY, September 9, field trip to the Colorado prairies for those able to stay over. The members of the Colorado Bird Club will select the places to go. Details will be available at the registration desk.

EATING ACCOMMODATIONS

As there are no restaurants convenient to the Museum, buffet luncheons will be served in the basement of Phipps Auditorium on Wednesday and Friday at 12:30 p.m. ($1.50 per person).

Luncheon will be served in the Glenn Miller Ball Room of University Memorial Center at Boulder on Thursday, September 6($1.25) at 12:30 p.m., and the Annual Banquet will take place in the same room at 7:00 p.m.($2.50 per person).

Box lunches may be purchased by all who desire them for the Saturday and Sunday field trips. They should be ordered at the time of registration.

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Bird Club members having cars who plan to attend the Boulder sessions on Thursdayor the field trips are requested to assist in transporting out-of-town visitors. The Boulder caravan will leave the Shirley-Savoy Hotel at about 8 A.M. and will leave Boulder after the banquet and evening entertainment at about 10:30 P.M. Field trips will leave the Shirley-Savoy at 7 A.M. Anyone able to furnish such transportation should please notify Dr. Alfred M. Bailey at the Denver Museum of Natural History, City Park, Denver, indicating the trip or trips and the number of passengers he can accommodate.

COLORADO BIRD CLUB

CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 1956

Sept.
5,6,7 (Wed.-Fri.) Meeting of American Ornithologists' Union (see accompanying sheet)

8 (Sat.) 7 AM A.O.U. field trip to mountains (see accompanying sheet)

9 (Sun.) 7 AM A.O.U. field trip to plains " " "

15 (Sat.) 1 PM Field Trip to Barr Lake and vicinity. Ruth Wheeler, leader (GL5-3924) Meet at Montview & Colorado Blvds. (Transportation 50¢)

23 (Sun.) 6:30 AM Field Trip to Marston Lake & vicinity. Joe Taylor, leader WE4-8137) Meet at Public Library, Civic Center (Transp. 50¢)

25 (Tues.) 8 PM Regular Meeting (Program to be announced in Sept. CBN.)

29 (Sat.) 1 PM Field Trip to Genesee Mountain Park. Donald Thatcher, leader (GL5-7479) Meet at West Colfax & Sheridan Blvd. (Transp. 50¢)

Anyone interested is welcome at all meetings and trips.
Please call leader before field trips, if possible.
Transportation is by private cars; amounts above are suggested for those riding with others.

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The June - July - August COLORADO BIRD NOTES will follow in a few days.

COLORADO BIRD NOTES

Bulletin of the Colorado Bird Club

Vol. 4 No. 1 June-September 1956

THE 1956 COLORADO SPRING COUNT

Last year we modified the widely spaced "century grind" type of spring count to a state-wide coördinated count in which parties all over the state cooperated. As a result, long lists by single parties (such as that of 143 species made in 1953) have suffered, but we have a better over-all picture of bird populations in the state.

Usually such ventures turn up interesting finds and this year provided its share. Colorado Springs reported a phenomenal number of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (17) along with unseasonal Tree Sparrows and Oregon and Slate-colored Juncos. A Philadelphia Vireo was found at Bonny Dam near the Kansas line. Scarlet Tanagers were found at Bonny Dam and Holyoke. White-winged Crossbills occurred near Echo Lake.

The following chart attempts to show the effect on birding of moving across the state from east to west. The first three columns are of counts made near the Kansas border in Northeastern Colorado while the last (Durango) was made near the southwest corner. It is apparent that in the east (first 3 columns) many birds are common which are noticeably absent along the Eastern Slope of the Rockies. Among these might be included Bobwhite, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Blue Jay, Orchard and Baltimore Orioles, and Scarlet Tanager. In addition, Green Heron, Chimney Swift, Crested Flycatcher, White-necked Raven, several Eastern Warblers, Bobolink, Cardinal, and Cassin's Sparrow appear to be uncommon but regular in extreme eastern Colorado. Westward, near the edge of the Rockies, the above species mostly disappear and others, such as Cinnamon Teal, California Gull, Red-shafted Flicker, Say's Phoebe, Bullock's Oriole, and Lazuli Bunting become much more numerous. As one ascends the mountains, other species peculiar to restricted habitat appear. These include Scrub Jay, Canyon Wren, Poorwill, White-throated Swift, Williamson's Sapsucker, Three-toed Woodpecker, Gray Jay, Clark's Nutcracker, Pygmy Nuthatch, Dipper, and Cassin's Finch. Descending the western slope leaves some mountain species behind, but substitutes such birds as the Sage Thrasher.

In the chart, the numbers seen are indicated. Where an "X" appears, numbers were not reported because individuals were too numerous to count.

This year's count of 213 species exceeds the 1955 count by 23. Twenty-one species found last year, but not in 1956 make a total of 234 for the two years. Twelve shorebirds and five warblers account for most of this year's excess. Most observers agreed that the count would have been considerably higher if it had been made a few days earlier.

Localities and Observers

1. Bonny Reservoir and vicinity - reservoir, wooded river bottom, field, prairie, 10 hours. John Crapin and Thompson Marsh.

2. Fort Collins to Sterling, Holyoke, Wray, Beecher Island and return via Greeley (407 miles) - river bottom and dry prairie. 15½ hours. Paul H. Baldwin, Richard G. Beidleman and Richrd S. Miller.

3. South Platte River, Crook to below Ovid, Jumbo Reservoir - river bottom, reservoir and open farm land. John and Margaret Douglass.

4. Northeast of Denver - Derby to Hudson, Horse Creek Reservoir and Brighton - lakes and ponds, cattails, dry farm and prairie. 9 hours. Parnell and Jean White.

5. South of Denver - Platte Canyon, Waterton, Plum Creek area (vicinity Sedalia), Daniels Park, then north to Barr Lake and Mile-High Lakes - lakes and ponds, stream bottom, dry prairie and scrub oak. 12 hours. Phyllis Caswell, Alma Kirkeby, Sadie Morrison.

6. Vicinity Colorado Springs - mountain stream, coniferous forest, scrub oak. 5½ hours. Mesdames T. L. Adams, G. Catlett, A. D. Williams.

7. Colorado Springs - residential and park, shrubs, thickets and cottonwoods. 1¼ hours. Mrs. D. H. Leavens.

8. Ranches east of Colorado Springs, Black Forest, Fountain - lakes, stream bottoms, prairie, farm land. 10½ hours. Mrs. L. B. Field, Larry Field, Pfc. C. Kersting, George Sinton, Capt. E. Smith.

9. Colorado Springs and vicinity - city parks, lake, canyons, prairie and farm land. 8 hours. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Weberbauer.

10. Vicinity Colorado Springs - foothills, creek bottom, scrub oak and juniper. 2 hours. Mrs. B. E. Sutton.

11. Vicinity Colorado Springs - open fields, reservoir, pinon-juniper forest, cottonwoods and willows. 4 hours. Helen B. Thurlow.

12. Cheeseman Park, Denver (2 hours), Platte River road to Waterton, Sedalia and foothills west. Phyllis McRae.

13. Boulder (Colorado University Campus) to Lyons, Estes Park, Allens Park, also ranch east of Boulder - city, farm, lakes and ponds, foothills, coniferous forest. 7 persons in two parties.

14. Longmont and Berthoud vicinities to Estes Park - fields and roadsides, lakes and streams, forested foothills and mountains. 12 hours. Jay Arnold, Mrs. Carl Collister, Mrs. John Thielen.

15. St. Mary's Glacier area, Idaho Springs to Marston Lake and vicinity - coniferous forest, lakes. Larry Crowley, John Flavin.

16. Red Rocks Park and Genesee Mountain Park to Echo Lake and timberline (Mt. Goliath) - sandstone cliffs, pine forest, spruce forest and tundra. 10 hours. Donald Thatcher.

17. Durango and Animas River - river bottom, cottonwood, pine forest. 2¼ hours. Oppie Reames.

Species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Common Loon	1																
Horned Grebe	2	2												1			
Eared Grebe	3		3		1			2									
Western Grebe			3												1		
Pied-billed Grebe				1	1								2	4	2		
Double-crested Cormorant	80		24	2	6								1		26		
Great Blue Heron	4	3	6	12	2			1					6	2	1		
Snowy Egret	1												1				
Green Heron	2																
Black-crowned Night Heron	12												11				
American Bittern													1				
White-faced Ibis				1													
Canada Goose					2												
Snow Goose	1																
Mallard	10	8	53	20	8	10		75	3			7	21	7	X		
Gadwall	100	7	61		8			26					40	41	9		
American Widgeon	16		22					5						4	6		
Pintail	6	3	23	21	3			7					4		4		
Green-winged Teal	10		54	5										4	2		
Blue-winged Teal	200	19	95	17	14	2		50			2		16	10	24		
Cinnamon Teal				10	4			30						2	2		
Shoveller	200	20	198	38	6	1		115					30	19	16		
Redhead	2	6				2								16	12		
Ring-necked Duck	1																
Lesser Scaup Duck	30		9		1	2			2				2	8			
Bufflehead	1																
Ruddy Duck	300		8	6	12			6					1	8			
Hooded Merganser				1													
Common Merganser															1		
Turkey Vulture					6			2									
Cooper's Hawk						1		1									
Red-tailed Hawk	1	1	1			1			1		1				4	1	
Swainson's Hawk	4	3	1	2				2			1	1					
Rough-legged Hawk								1					1				
Ferruginous Hawk	1	3													1		
Golden Eagle								1	2				1		1		
Bald Eagle								1	2								
Marsh Hawk	6	6	11	2	3						1	1					
Prairie Falcon						1			1						1	1	
Peregrine Falcon												1					
Pigeon Hawk												1					
Sparrow Hawk	1	13	1	13	11	2		12	5		5	6	2	6	4	3	3
Scaled Quail						1											
Bobwhite	2	13	10														
Ring-necked Pheasant	1	19	10	2	7			4	1			7	5	14	4		
Virginia Rail	1																
Sora														2			
Coot	80		165	34	20	3		60	8		1		25	250	X		
Killdeer	12	19	18	16	6	2		20	1		2	6	27	12	X		
Ruddy Turnstone				4													
Common Snipe													1				
Upland Plover		1															
Spotted Sandpiper	6		10		1			2					3		1		
Willet	7				3			4									
Greater Yellowlegs	1																
Lesser Yellowlegs	20	3						4					1		1		
Pectoral Sandpiper	2																
White-rumped Sandpiper	1																
Baird's Sandpiper	16		13											1			

Species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Least Sandpiper	4		1														
Long-billed Dowitcher	1			3	10								7		1		
Stilt Sandpiper	40																
Semipalmated Sandpiper	12																
Western Sandpiper	2	1	15														
Sanderling	2																
American Avocet	20	16	8	105	10			30					4	17	X		
Black-necked Stilt				2	1												
Wilson's Phalarope	400		213	97	1			55					30	4	30		
Northern Phalarope	1																
California Gull														2	8		
Ring-billed Gull	40	3	4					8					3	1	15		
Franklin's Gull	1		1		2							1	2				
Bonaparte's Gull														2			
Forster's Tern	1		6	1	1										1		
Black Tern	1		100	34	50									16	3		
Band-tailed Pigeon														115			
Mourning Dove	128	215	93	36	68	8	15	50	57		24	122	50	70	2	5	5
Barn Owl	1																
Horned Owl	4	1						3							1		
Burrowing Owl															2		
Long-eared Owl	1																
Poorwill															1		
Common Nighthawk	4		3														
White-throated Swift					1	3			100				25	20	25	12	
Chimney Swift		1	3														
Broad-tailed Hummingbird					4	3		1			1		2	1	3		2
Belted Kingfisher	1	1	3										2	2			
Yellow-shafted Flicker	2		2														
Hybrid Flicker		1															
Red-shafted Flicker		2	3	7	2	11	3	10	14	3	9	6	10	4	X	8	2
Red-headed Woodpecker	20	8	14		1			5	11				1	1			
Lewis's Woodpecker					2			5	17		2	1	2	1			2
Williamson's Sapsucker													1	1		3	
Hairy Woodpecker	1	1						3	1				2		2		
Downy Woodpecker	1		4														
Three-toed Woodpecker																1	
Eastern Kingbird	80	14	34	7	7			18	18		2	4	4	6	3		
Western Kingbird	200	46	30	41	25	1		20	27		4	3		2			
Crested Flycatcher	4																
Say's Phoebe						1		6			1	3	2	2	1	1	
Least Flycatcher								1									
Western Flycatcher		1	1			1							1			1	
Hammond's or Wright's Flycatcher														1			
Unidentified Empidonax			1														3
Western Wood Pewee						1	1	3					1		1		1
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1				1				1								
Horned Lark	100	162	13	5	39			40			7	12		1	X	2	
Violet-green Swallow						23		2					4	11	X	2	49
Tree Swallow												3		5			
Bank Swallow		6							5				2				
Rough-winged Swallow	60	16	27	2				12	5		1		8	3			
Barn Swallow	1	4	3	19	6			7	3			25	15	20			
Cliff Swallow	1	2						1			4		200	29	200		
Gray Jay															4	1	
Bluejay	80	23	33											1			
Steller's Jay					2	14			25				2	5	9		
Scrub Jay					2				3		2						

Species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Black-billed Magpie	100	35	15	56	39	8		40	56	5	19	38	30	36	X	9	11
Common Raven												2			2	2	
White-necked Raven	1																
American Crow	80	18	4		3	2		1				3	3	1	3	2	2
Pinyon Jay														25			17
Clark's Nutcracker												4	1	19	16	4	
Black-capped Chickadee	20	7	9		2	1		3					2	3		2	
Mountain Chickadee						1		1					2	3	X	17	
White-breasted Nuthatch						1		1	15		1			1			
Red-breasted Nuthatch						2		1					4			4	
Pygmy Nuthatch						6		2	25				2	6	3	13	
Dipper										1			1	1			
House Wren	8	15	29		1	7	1	10			4		6	11	5	2	1
Rock Wren	1												1	1	3		
Canyon Wren					1									2		3	
Mockingbird	32	6		3				5						4			
Catbird		2	4		9	3	2		1			1	2	1	1	1	
Brown Thrasher	4	6	25					3						1		1	
Sage Thrasher																	1
Robin	1	58	17	3	20	29	18	22	35	3	27	43	X	38	X	16	13
Hermit Thrush															X	5	
Swainson's Thrush	2	5	6					2					1				
Veery		1						1									
Western Bluebird					1			4								1	
Mountain Bluebird					5	6		15	2			4	6	6	X	3	
Townsend's Solitaire								1							4	5	
Golden-crowned Kinglet						5											
Ruby-crowned Kinglet													1	1	X	15	
Water Pipit													10			4	
Loggerhead Shrike	1	2		4	1				1			1			1		
Starling	80	60	2	80	11	6	7	15	28	1	2	19	X	12	1	2	4
Solitary Vireo			2	1	1			1					1	1		3	
Red-eyed Vireo	4	3	1				1					1	1	1	1		
Philadelphia Vireo	1																
Warbling Vireo			3		2	3							6	1	4		
Black and White Warbler													1				
Orange-crowned Warbler			3										1	1	1		
Nashville Warbler	1																
Virginia's Warbler													4	8	6	2	
Yellow Warbler	8	23	9	3	14	11	7	12	75			25	10	11	X		27
Myrtle Warbler	1		1														
Audubon's Warbler	1		6	3				3				1	6	5	X	32	2
Black-throated Gray Warbler														1			
Chestnut-sided Warbler			2														
Blackpoll Warbler			3														
Macgillivray's Warbler													3	1	1		
Yellowthroat	8	1	9	10	10			10				1	20	7			
Yellow-breasted Chat		10	4										6	3	1	6	
Pileolated Warbler	1																
Redstart	1		6		3												
House Sparrow	20	863	X	122	24		17	53	50		9	42	X	37	X	1	25
Bobolink	3		2					1									
Western Meadowlark	100	110	18	51	61	19		25	113		23	36	X	47	X	4	1
Yellow-headed Blackbird	80	3	80	229	182			50	60				50	125	X		
Red-winged Blackbird	200	208	X	176	123	18		82	50		12	115	X	105	X		13
Orchard Oriole	60	6	10														
Baltimore Oriole	6	1	6														
Bullock's Oriole		1	9	5	1	1		24	13		11		10	19			7

Species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Brewer's Blackbird		8	1		24	22		4	32		5	32	15	40	X	2	18
Purple Grackle	2	54	23			8	5	1	9				1	9	6		
Brown-headed Cowbird	8	10	13	1				1	2			9		2			
Scarlet Tanager	1	3															
Western Tanager		1			3	3	1	9	7	3		1	4	10	7	2	
Cardinal			1														
Rose-breasted Grosbeak						1		1	15								
Black-headed Grosbeak		1	4			9	2	3		1	2		6	2	3	1	41
Blue Grosbeak	1	1	1	2				3				1		2			
Indigo Bunting			5										2	1	1		
Lazuli Bunting			2		9	9					1	3	6	2	2	7	
Dickcissel	1																
Evening Grosbeak					1		10		12	10			X	7	14		545
Cassin's Finch								1								3	8
House Finch		11		3	7		25	23	40		8	51	X	18	X	1	28
Pine Grosbeak																1	
Red Crossbill													2		2	120	
White-winged Crossbill																7	
Pine Siskin	16					20	14	20				54	X	23	X	277	164
American Goldfinch	2	6	24		25	29	20	3	7				50	9			172
Lesser Goldfinch								5									
Green-tailed Towhee								1					1	1	6		
Rufous-sided Towhee			1		6	15		2	41		5	4	8	4	2	9	
Lark Bunting	20	619	143	38	103			80	3			7					
Savannah Sparrow				1				1					2	2			
Grasshopper Sparrow			2														
Vesper Sparrow	1				8			11				3		1			
Lark Sparrow	64	44	16	17	3			6	6				4	19	1		
Cassin's Sparrow	1																
Oregon Junco									9								
Gray-headed Junco								8					1		X	25	
Slate-colored Junco									5								
American Tree Sparrow									7								
Chipping Sparrow	10	4	14		2	5	1	7	1				1	2	3	6	4
Clay-colored Sparrow	2	2	34					3									
Brewer's Sparrow													1				
White-crowned Sparrow	1			1		9		3					6	2	X	3	5
Lincoln's Sparrow	1														1		
Swamp Sparrow			1					1									
Song Sparrow	2		1		1	1		5			1	3	3	2	6		5

----John L. Chapin

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WELDONA NOTES

by Howard Rollin

June 10, 1956 - The past month saw the return of the rest of the summer residents and the last of the spring migrants on their way north. Some migrants have not yet been seen this spring. No Barn or Cliff Swallows have been noted anywhere between here and Fort Morgan. Warblers are very few in numbers as well as in species. Goldfinches have been absent and no Grasshopper Sparrows have been seen. Poorwill was not seen, but the Nighthawk is common. Eastern and Western Kingbirds and Say's Phoebe are unusually common. All water birds are absent or very scarce except the Killdeer, which is uncommon though here in suitable places and often comes about the buildings. All the hawks are rare, even the usually common Swainson's and Marsh Hawks. The Lark Bunting, so common in migration, moved on and only a few are nesting; there are none in the flats in the canyons or along the creek. Lark Sparrow and Rock Wren are unusually scarce this year. Western Meadowlark and Horned Lark are common, especially the latter, and quite a few young of both have been noted. The Mourning Dove, common everywhere earlier, dwindled down to its usual numbers, and has eggs or young at this time. The Mockingbird is common and three or four pairs are nesting within a mile or so of the buildings; every place from here to Fort Morgan has Mockers about. Bullock's Oriole, on the other hand, is very scarce or absent.

Following are other migration data:

Double-crested Cormorant - 1 6/6, common last year; very few this year
Common Nighthawk - first 1 5/21, again 5/26, common by 5/30
Red-headed Woodpecker - 1 5/26 (rare)
Eastern Kingbird - first, near Fort Morgan, 5/17, here 5/23 and seen occasionally. First last year 6/2
Western Kingbird - very common this year. Became numerous 6/1
Cassin's Kingbird - 1 5/16, 17; only other spring dates 5/10-12/51 and 5/15/54 (rare)
House Wren - 1 5/16
Brown Thrasher - first, 1 5/17, again 5/18, 29; singing 6/9-10; Last year's first 6/23
Catbird - 1 5/30 (rare)
Sage Thrasher - not seen since 5/4 when in song
Starling - nesting for the first time in this vicinity 6/55
Yellow Warbler - 1 5/17
Myrtle Warbler - 1 5/3 and 17
Yellowthroat - 1 5/19 (Very rare migrant; 4 previous records, 5/8-25)
Yellow-headed Blackbird - last 1 5/6
Bullock's Oriole - present but very scarce
Brewer's Blackbird - last 1 5/11
Red-winged Blackbird - in very small numbers along creek
Crow Blackbird - last 5/14
Loggerhead Shrike - not seen since 6/3, but may be still about
Blue Grosbeak - first female 5/26, 1 male 5/27; remains here
Black-headed Grosbeak - first 1 5/8, a rare migrant
House Finch - not seen this year
Green-tailed Towhee - last 5/23
Spotted Towhee - not seen
Vesper Sparrow - last migrant 5/17; one seen 6/2 may be nesting
Chipping Sparrow - last 5/20
Brewer's Sparrow - correction in last month's report (page 67), "again 4/30" should read, "again 5/1"
Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow - last 5/17
Song Sparrow - last 1 5/28 (in song)

July 21 - The prolonged drouth here was finally broken by an inch of rain July 17, and the grass that had been so dry and brown once more shows green. The dry weather apparently was a boon to the birds, as most of those that nest here seem to have a bumper crop of young. Some of the usually common nesters are, however, rare this year. Lark Buntings are in very small numbers and no young have been seen to date, while there are small flocks already working south. Mourning Doves that were so common in migration are scarce, and only two nests have been seen all summer, although a few young on the wing have been noted. Lark Sparrows, which seemed to be scarce, have a bumper crop of young, and as these congregate around the buildings, they give an impression of being abundant; few are seen at this time in the canyons. Two families of Rock Wrens have been noted so far; none were seen last year. Brewer's Sparrows have their young at this time on the wing and are more numerous than usual. Horned Larks were in small family groups by June 29, while some were still performing their flight songs, and presumably still nesting; they had excellent luck with their young this year, as did the Meadowlarks. Killdeer had two groups of young along the creek this year, but none nested in the canyons or near the buildings; they still come about the place here and in the fields but are scarce this year. A young Horned Owl met with a freak accident; it was electrocuted at the transformer on the power line here.

The following notes bring up to date the bird news here.

Great Blue Heron - 1 6/13 (rare)
Prairie Falcon - 1 7/17, rare here in summer
Sparrow Hawk - 1 7/6, near Fort Morgan
Swainson's and Marsh Hawks - more numerous than indicated in May report (7/6)
Franklin's Gull - first of year 7/17, thousands between here and Fort Morgan, both flying and in the fields, also 7/18; several hundred in flight and on ground near house 7/21
Barn Owl - young in nest in the canyon
Nighthawk - young on the wing, 7/11
Red-headed Woodpecker - 1 7/19, very unusual here in summer
Western Kingbird - nested here, young on the wing 7/18
Eastern Kingbird - nested in tree at creek
Barn Swallow - not seen here, but noted near Fort Morgan, 7/6
Cliff Swallow - Same, 7/17
Mockingbird - nested in the mulberries behind the chicken coop; young on the wing 7/5. Those nesting in the canyons N.W., N.E. and S.E. have brought their young up to the buildings now; the resident mocker was not a noisy bird, and while he did resent the others' being about there was no fighting, just some chasing and a lot of Ka-aaa-ing.
Sage Thrasher - 6/8 and 7/17, only ones since 5/4
Loggerhead Shrike - nested in canyon, brought young to house 7/9. Seen to attack Barn Owl 7/7, with the help of a male Cowbird.
Bullock's Oriole - singing here 6/24, (first since 5/20) and 7/18.
Cowbird - no young seen to date
Crow Blackbird - 1 6/24, unusual at this time of year; first since 5/14
Yellow-headed Blackbird - 1 7/12 (rare in summer)
Blue Grosbeak - first time in song 6/17. Seen along creek 6/28 and has nested in the willows there.
House Finch - 1 7/14, a rare visitor

August 20 - The past month produced light showers and a couple of rains of an inch or so. The hills and flats are still quite green and the grass is of good height. Birds have been on the move; some of those that nested have about all left, and some migrants have moved in. Double-crested Cormorants have been seen in the country, but not right here. Great Blue Herons were seen twice here, four August 1 and one August 8. Swainson's Hawks have increased until they are quite frequent now. Golden Eagles are still here but uncommon this year. The Marsh Hawk is about in its usual small numbers. Red-tailed Hawk has been seen once, July 29. Sparrow Hawks are fairly common. The Ring-necked Pheasant has not been seen recently. Upland Plovers were seen or heard August 11 (four) and August 13. Mountain Plovers were seen August 12. The Killdeer is scarce now but one is seen or heard nearly every day. A Solitary Sandpiper was seen July 23 and 27 and August 16. Franklin's Gulls - 12 to 15 - were seen August 9, but none since. The Mourning Dove is about in fair numbers now; very few young have been noted, however. Barn Owls and Horned Owls are still in the canyons. The Common Nighthawk is more numerous than in the past several years. A Broad-tailed Hummingbird was here for four days, August 10 to 13; it is unusual for it to be about for such a long period. The rare Hairy Woodpecker was here briefly August 12. Another rare visitor was the Ash-throated Flycatcher, August 4. Western Kingbirds were extremely common this year; 75 to 100 were seen August 12 along the fence lines in a 15-mile stretch. Eastern Kingbirds, also, were more common this year than usual. Say's Phoebe's are still about here but are not numerous; a nest under the eaves was successful, and four young are safely on the wing. Horned Larks are about commonly in small flocks of six to eight. Rough-winged Swallows have not been seen since about August 5. Cliff Swallows were seen near here, six to eight, August 2, and six August 3; while near Fort Morgan there were 100 to 150 August 2 and 600 to 800 August 9. No Barn Swallows have been seen here yet this year. Magpies are about in small numbers; they are not nearly as common as they used to be. Rock Wrens are still here but in smaller numbers than usual; a few young have been seen. Mockingbirds were very common here all summer and they were very successful with their young; at this time they are about all gone; the last young were on the wing August 3. Sage Thrashers are about here in varying numbers, not more than eight at one time. Loggerhead Shrikes also were successful in raising their young this year and they are common at this time. Starlings have not been seen the past month. Warblers are very rare; Pileolated is the only one seen, one, August 13. House Sparrows have been absent for a month or more, except two August 16. Western Meadowlarks are common this year; their last young was on the wing August 15. Bullock's Oriole is rare; one was seen August 14. Red-winged Blackbirds are absent; Brewer's Blackbirds were seen July 24. Cowbirds are gone except the young and one flock of 17 migrants, August 18. Blue Grosbeaks have not been seen for the last two weeks; they had young on the wing at that time. Goldfinches are entirely absent. Lark Buntings are about gone now; very small flocks were seen July 29, large flocks August 2 and 17; no young were seen here this year. One Vesper Sparrow was seen August 5, an early fall date. Lark Sparrows are about all gone now; they raised many young this year; small flocks were working south July 29, and one August 20. Chipping Sparrows are quite common now; first six were seen August 2 and 3, and they were common by August 13.

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We have received a copy of Bulletin 3 of the Thorne Ecological Research Station, at Boulder, entitled "Differences Between the Common House Finch and Cassin's Purple Finch of the Genus Carpodacus" by Oakleigh Thorne II. Comparison is made of shape and size of bill and head (illustrated), and tarsi, actions, notes and plumage, all good characters for separating the House and Cassin's Finches. Mr. Thorne has offered to send a copy of this useful paper to anyone requesting it (free-of-charge). Address: Thorne Ecological Research Station, 1707 Hillside Road, Boulder, Colorado.

BIRDS OF THE SEASON

by Donald M. Thatcher

Following are listed spring arrival and last spring dates, including a few dates earlier than those reported for the same species in May, indicated with an asterisk (*), and several unusual summer occurrences. A number of fall migration dates already received will be included in next month's report.

Contributors: Gordon Alexander, Jay Arnold, Richard Beidleman, Mildred Carder, Phyllis Caswell, John Chapin, Mrs. Carl Collister, Catherine Crone, Larry Crowley, John and Margaret Douglass, John Flavin, Larry Field, Edward Hellstern, O. A. Knorr, Robert Lamb, L. Jack Lyon, Thompson Marsh, Oppie Reames, Dale Rice, Cal and Sarah Royall, George Sinton, Donald M. Thatcher, Donna H. Thatcher, Mrs. John Thielen, Oakleigh Thorne II, Parnell and Jean White, Aiken Ornithological Society (AOS) and Boulder Bird Club (BBC).

Western Grebe - 1 6/14 near Denver (3 miles southwest) (TM); 1 7/12 Sloan's Lake, Denver (DT)

American Bittern - 1 4/7 near Golden * (HB)

Wood Duck - 1 male 7/22 Sloan's Lake, Denver (DHT)

Sandhill Crane - 2 4/16 Ft. Collins*(Terry Lake) (RL,MC)

Semipalmated Plover - 1 5/13 Windsor Res.(Weld Co.)(JD,MD) (See note following this report, on page 12)

Ruddy Turnstone - 4 5/19 near Hudson (PW,JW)

Upland Sandpiper - 1 5/19 near Wray (RB, et al)

Stilt Sandpiper - 9 5/18 near Auton (Washington Co.)(TM)

Semipalmated Sandpiper - 1 5/18 near Auton (TM)

Northern Phalarope - 12 5/15 (with flock of Wilson's) Henry's Lake (Federal Correctional Institution) west of Littleton (PW,JW)

California Gull - 3 4/22 Boulder (CC)

Franklin's Gull - 2 7/26-28 Evergreen (TM); 1st Denver 8/10 several (DMT)

Band-tailed Pigeon - 115 5/19 Drake (JA,Mrs.CC, Mrs.JT); 2 5/20 Cheyenne, Wyo. (LF); 1 6/27 Genesee Mountain Park, (Jefferson Co.) (DMT)

Common Nighthawk - 3 5/19 NE Colorado (JD,MD); nesting: 2 eggs 7/4-20, 1 large young 8/5 Genesee Mountain Park (DMT)

Chimney Swift - 3 5/19 Ovid (JD,MD); 1 5/19 Beecher's Island (RB,et al); a few at Boulder all summer, presumed to be nesting (OAK)

Rufous Hummingbird - 1-3 7/27-30 Evergreen (TM)

Red-headed Woodpecker - first 5/10 NE Colorado (LJL)

Traill's Flycatcher - 1 5/17 SE Denver; 1 6/18 Evergreen (TM)

Wright's Flycatcher - 6/14-22 Evergreen (TM)

Western Flycatcher - 1 5/12 NE Colorado (JD,MD)

Western Pewee - 5 5/19 Colorado Spgs & Vicinity (Spring Count--AOS); 1 5/19 Boulder(Spring Count-BBC); 1 5/21 SE Denver (TM); 8 5/30 vicinity Boulder (CC); "late at Berthoud" (JA)

Tree Swallow - nesting 6/9-24 Evergreen (TM)

Blue Jay - 1 7/30 SE Denver (JF)

White-necked Raven - 5 5/18 near Auton (TM)

Mockingbird - 1 6/27 Buffalo Creek, near Buffalo, elev. 7000 ft. (JF)

Veery - 1 5/12 NE Colo.(JD,MD)

Bell's Vireo - 1 6/3 Boulder (CC)

Red-eyed Vireo - 3 5/19 Beecher's Island (RB,et al); 1 5/19 NE Colo.(JD,MD); 1 5/21 SE Denver (TM)

Black-and-white Warbler - 1 5/19 Boulder (Spring Count--BBC)

Nashville Warbler (Calaveras) - 1 5/15 Boulder (LC)
Chestnut-sided Warbler - 2 5/19 NE Colo. (JD,MD)
Bay-breasted Warbler - 2 5/12 NE Colo.(JD,MD)
Black-polled Warbler - 3 (1 and 2, males) 5/12, 3 (2 Males & 1 female) 5/19 NE Colo.(JD,MD); 1 5/16 Berthoud (JA)
Ovenbird - 1 (singing) 5/27 near Tinytown (DR,CR,SR); 3 (singing) 5/27 Deer Creek (SW of Littleton) (Club trip)
American Redstart - 1 5/12, 6 5/19 NE Colo.(JD,MD); 1 female 5/14 Boulder (LC); 2 5/19 near Sedalia (Spring Count)
Bobolink - 2 5/19 NE Colo.(JD,MD); 1 5/19 near Colorado Springs (GS and party)
Orchard Oriole - 10 5/19 NE Colo.(JD,MD); 6 5/19 Wray & Beecher's Island (RB, et al); 60 5/19 Bonny Res. (JC,TM)
Baltimore Oriole - 2 5/12, 6 5/19 NE Colo.(JD,MD); 6 5/19 Bonny Reservoir (JC, TM); 1 5/19 Beecher's Island (RB,et al); 1 6/10 Ft. Morgan (song not typical, somewhat resembling that of Bullock's Oriole; may have been a hybrid) (Club trip)
Scarlet Tanager - 1 male 5/12 NE Colo.(JD,MD); 1 male, 2 female 5/19 Holyoke (RB,et al); 1 5/19 Bonny Dam(JC,TM); a moulting male (dead) brought to Denver Museum 9/5
HEPATIC TANAGER - 1 male 5/15 Boulder (OT, OAK, GA) (A new species for the Colorado hypothetical list)
Cardinal - 1 male 5/19 NE Colo.(JD,MD)
Rose-breasted Grosbeak - 1 5/12 Lyons (JA); 17 (15 by one party) 5/19 Colo.Spgs vicinity(Spring Count-AOS)(2 additional reports in May, ColoradoSprings)
Black-headed Grosbeak - first 5/9* NE Colo. (LJL)
Blue Grosbeak - 1 male 5/19 NE Colo., 1 male 5/20 4 mi. W. of Loveland (JD,MD); 1 5/19 Wray (RB,et al)
Indigo Bunting - 5(in flock with 2 Lazulis; one may have been a hybrid) 5/19 NE Colo. (JD,MD); 1 5/19 Ft. Morgan (EH); 2 5/19 Boulder (Spring Count)(BBC); 1 5/19 Lyons (JA,Mrs.CNC,Mrs.JT); 1 5/21 Cheyenne, Wyo.(LF); 1 6/10 Ft. Morgan(Club Trip); 1 7/22 Boulder (CC)
Lazuli Bunting - 1 4/30* near SW Denver (PW,JW)
Dickcissel - 5/10 NE Colo.(LJL); 3 6/3, 4 7/22, 5(4 & 1) 9/12 North of Boulder (CC)
Evening Grosbeak - 545 5/19 (several migrating flocks) Durango (OR); 1 5/21 SE Denver (last Denver report)(TM); many 5/21 Ft. Morgan(EH);many 5/24 Ft. Collins (JD,MD); last 2 5/28 Boulder (CC)
Red Crossbill - 120(approx.)in 2 flocks 5/19 Echo Lake vicinity(DMT)(last report for Denver area); 22 5/21 Cheyenne, Wyo.(LF); 10 6/10 near Estes Park(PC,et al)
White-winged Crossbill - 1 female(probably more)and 6 both sexes with two flocks Red Crossbills 5/19 Echo Lake vicinity (DMT)
Lark Bunting - 5/2* NE Colo.(LJL)
Grasshopper Sparrow - 2 5/19 NE Colo.(JD,MD); 4 7/22 near Boulder (CC)
BLACK-THROATED SPARROW - (Desert Sparrow) - 1 6/3 Round Butte(20 mi. N.of Ft. Collins and far north of its range) (LC)
American Tree Sparrow - 1 5/3 Ft. Morgan (EH); 7 5/19 Colo.Spgs(Spring Count) (AOS) unusually late.
White-throated Sparrow - 3 5/12 NE Colo.(JD,MD); 1 5/13 Ft. Morgan (EH-3rd record)
(Slate-colored) Fox Sparrow - 1 7/7 in song Evergreen (TM)
Swamp Sparrow - 2 5/12, 1 5/19 NE COLO.(JD,MD)

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A. O. U. CHECK - LIST REVISION

The 31st Supplement to the A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds (Auk:73, no. 3; July, 1956) states that the Semipalmated Plover (Charadrius hiaticula semipalmatus) is again treated as a distinct species (C. semipalmatus) instead of as the recently designated subspecies of the Ringed Plover (C. hiaticula). "Both birds concerned . . . . . nest through an extensive area on Baffin Island with no indication of intergradation or hybridization."

From another source comes information that the Spotted Towhee (Spurred and Arctic) (Pipilo maculatus) has been combined with the eastern Red-eyed Towhee (P. erythrophthalmus), the entire species to be known as the Rufous-sided Towhee.

A number of other changes, mostly reversions to the names we have used for many years, have appeared in recent literature and differ from the new common names used in the preliminary check list accompanying your April NOTES. Some of these are used elsewhere in this issue (Sparrow Hawk, Pigeon Hawk, Purple Grackle, etc.). As the long awaited 5th edition of the A.O.U. check list has now gone to press, we should have the complete correct nomenclature in a few months.

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BINOCULARS FOR BIRDING

At our October meeting (Oct. 23), Mr. R. J. Reichert, of the Mirakel Optical Company, Mount Vernon, New York, will give a talk on "Binoculars for Birding", covering: how to use your glass to best advantage, how to choose the model best suited to your purpose, and how to check a glass -- both for condition and for the claims made for it. He will also briefly review the binocularscurrently available, with reference to their country of origin. He will have a simple chart and diagram to illustrate details every birder should know, and an assortment of binoculars and scopes of various types and powers, including a couple of "phonies" as examples of misrepresentation.

Mr. Reichert will also show some color slides of birds he has photographed through binoculars (the new Bino-Fotography).

Members who would like to ask Mr. Reichert about their personal glasses may bring them along and consult him after the meeting. Mr. Reichert is the author of "Know Your Binoculars" published in Audubon Magazine, as well as numerous other articles, and is listed in "Who Knows - And What" as an authority on binoculars.

A copy of his 12-page reprint of "Know Your Binoculars" will be sent anyone requesting it. (See accompanying reprint.)

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PERSONALS

The Club will miss Mr. Harry Tyler, who passed away in June. Mr. Tyler was until recently one of the most active members of the club and contributed much to its meetings. Our sympathy is extended to Mrs. Tyler.

Two prospective Junior members arrived during the summer: Pamela, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Humphrey, July 7; and John W., III, son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Flavin, Jr., September 7. Congratulations to the parents!

CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 1956

September

23 (Sun.) 6:30 AM Field trip to Marston Lake & vicinity. Joe Taylor, leader (WE4-8137) Meet at Public Library, Civic Center (Transportation, 50¢)

25 (Tues.) 8 PM First Regular Meeting of 1956-57 Bird Club year
Dr. Alfred M. Bailey, Direstor of Denver Museum of Natural History, will present some colored bird movies.
Bird Room, Denver Museum of Natural History
(Please use north (employees') entrance)

29 (Sat.) 1 PM Field trip to Genesee Mountain Park. Donald Thatcher, leader (GL5-7479) Meet at West Colfax & Sheridan Blvd. (Transp. 50¢)

October

6 (Sat.) 1 PM Field trip to Waterton. James Humphrey, leader (GR7-3800) Meet on Alameda in block west of Broadway (Transp. 50¢)

14 (Sun.) 7 AM Field Trip to Red Rocks & Genesee Mountain Park. Donald Thatcher, leader (GL5-7479). Meet West Colfax & Sheridan Blvd. (Transp. 50¢)

21 (Sun.) 7 AM Field trip to Marston Lake. John Chapin, leader (SK6-2200) Meet on Alameda in block west of Broadway. (Transp. 50¢)

23 (Tues.) 8 PM Regular Meeting. "Binoculars for Birding" (See page 12)

27 (Sat.) 1 PM Field Trip to Sedalia & vicinity. Ruth Wheeler, leader (GL5-3924) Meet on Alameda in block west of Broadway. (Transp. 50¢)

Anyone interested is welcome at all meetings and trips.
Please call leader before field trips, if possible.
Transportation is by private cars; amounts above are for those riding with others.

113 5 Emerson
Mildred Chapman
Ke 4-9016

COLORADO BIRD NOTES

Bulletin of the Colorado Bird Club

Vol. 4 No. 2 Denver, Colorado October 1956

BREEDING BIRD POPULATION STUDY IN PONDEROSA PINE FOREST.

by Donald M. Thatcher

During the past breeding season, population study in the foothills Ponderosa Pine forest of Genesee Mountain Park, 17 miles west of Denver, was repeated for the fifth time. This study has been made as a part of the nationwide project of the National Audubon Society and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the results of which are published annually in the December "Audubon Field Notes." Two other studies in different habitats in the Park were not repeated this past summer. These three studies were previously reported in Colorado Bird Notes for October, 1953, September, 1954 and October, 1955, and winter population studies in the same areas have been reported in February, 1954, 1955 and 1956.

The study area consists of 67 acres of nearly pure Ponderosa Pine, of which 50 acres are of dry, thinly-stocked south and southwest slope and 17 acres are of less dry and therefore better-stocked north and northeast slope. The pines are all-aged, up to 200 years or more, and range up to 34 inches in diameter (at 4½ feet from the ground). The southerly slopes contain approximately 120 trees (over 5 feet tall) per acre, of which an average of six exceed 20 inches in diameter and the northerly slopes have approximately 300 trees per acre, of which one or two are over 20 inches in diameter. Ground cover in the south is mostly Mountain Mahogany, Squaw Currant and New Jersey Tea, with a few 6 to 18-foot Colorado Junipers and a scattering of Ponderosa Pine "reproduction" (under 5 feet tall). About 2 percent of the north slope trees are Douglas Fir, up to 16 inches diameter, and the understory there is mostly Squaw Currant and Mountain Mahogany, with many young pines and Douglas Fir. A small patch (about 1/20 acre) of Trembling Aspen occurs in a damp gully. Elevation of the area is 7700 to 7950 feet above sea level. This habitat is typical of the Transition or Foothills life zone near its upper limits.

The procedure for the study consists mostly of locating on a new copy of a map of the area, for each of several trips, all birds seen or heard, together with notes on species, sex, activity, nests, etc. At the close of the season, the data from all trips are transferred to a separate map sheet for each species, and the probable territory of each pair of birds is thus determined. Nests are located if possible, but this is not necessary. Aside from the actual location of nests, the most helpful information is that of two or more birds of the same species singing (or seen) simultaneously. Best results are obtained in the early morning hours, when the birds are most active and do most of their singing, but certain species are best mapped at sunset.

Six complete trips were made over the area, on May 9; June 6 and 27; and July 4, 10 and 17. Trips were between 6:10 A.M. and 5:45 P.M., and totaled 14½ hours.

The following table lists the results of the five-year study. The first six columns of figures are the five-year averages for the north slopes (17 acres), south slopes (50 acres) and the entire area (67 acres), both for the actual acreages of the areas and, for comparing the populations, per 100 acres. The last six columns contain similar data for the current season (1956). The columns for 1952, 1953, 1954 and 1955 are the populations per 100 acres for the entire area. Species are arranged in order of average abundance for the five years. Fractional pairs or birds should be con-

sidered as representing territories, which may lie partly outside the study area, rather than as birds. A plus (+) indicates less than half a pair or territory.

	5-year average						1952	1953	1954	1955	1956					
	North		South		Entire		Entire		Area		North		South		Entire	
	100	17	100	50	100	67	100	100	100	100	100	17	100	50	100	67
Pyg. Nuthatch	15	2.5	14	6.9	14	9	+	9	16	19	13	12	2	14	7	13	9
Gray-headed Junco	12	2.0	12	5.9	12	7.9		9	13	11	13	12	2	14	7	13	9
Aud. Warbler	11	1.9	5	2.7	7	4.6		6	8	5	10	9	1.5	6	3	7	4.5
Mtn. Chickadee	9	1.5	6	2.9	7	4.4		8	7	5	9	3	.5	5	2.5	5	3
Chip. Sparrow	2	.3	8	3.8	6	4.1		6	4	5	9	3	.5	8	4	7	4.5
Am. Robin	2	.4	7	3.6	6	4.0		6	5	8	8			4	2	3	2
West. Pewee			5	2.4	4	2.4		2	3	5	5			6	3	5	3
Pine Siskin	2	.4	4	1.8	3	2.2		3	3	2	3	6	1	6	3	6	4
West. Bluebird	1	.1	4	2.0	3	2.1		3	3	2	5			4	2	3	2
Violet-green Swallow	2	.3	3	1.7	3	2.0		2	3	3	3			6	3	5	3
Sol. Vireo			4	1.9	3	1.9		1	3	3	3			6	3	5	3
West. Tanager			4	1.8	3	1.8		2	3	2	6			2	1	1	1
Steller's Jay	1	.1	3	1.6	3	1.7		3	3	3	3			1	.5	1	.5
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	.2	2	1.1	2	1.3		2	2	2	2	3	.5	2	1	2	1.5
West. Flycatchrl		.2	2	1.0	2	1.2			2	3	4						
Williamson's Sapsucker	1	.1	2	1.0	2	1.1		2	2		3			2	1	1	1
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	1	.2	2	.8	1	1.0		1	1	.5	3			1	.5	1	.5
RedCrossbill	1	.1	2	.9	1	1.0		4	2		1						
HermitThrush	5	.8			1	.8		1	1		1	6	1			1	1
Townsend's Sol.	1	.2	1	.6	1	.8		2	2	1				2	1	1	1
Mourn. Dove			1	.7	1	.7				.5	2			4	2	3	2
HairyWood.			1	.7	1	.7		1	1	1				1	.5	1	.5
Common Nighthawk			1	.4	1	.4			1		+			2	1	1	1
Red-shafted Flicker	1	.2	+	.2	1	.4					1	6	1			1	1
Green-tailed Towhee			1	.3	+	.3			1		1						
House Wren			+	.2	+	.2			1								
Vir. Warbler	1	.2			+	.2			1								
CassinsFinch			+	.2	+	.2			1	.5							
Red-tailedHawk			+	.1	+	.1	1										
Am. SparrowHawk			+	.1	+	.1					+			1	.5	1	.5
Horned Owl	+	+	+	.1						.5							
Sharp-shinned Hawk			+	+	+	+								+	+	+	+
Cooper'sHawk			+	+	+	+					+						
Blue Grouse			+	+	+	+		+									
No. Species	20		32		34		21	27	21	25	9		22		24		
No. Territorial Males	11.7		47.4		59.1		49	61	54.5	72.5	10		48.5		58.5		
Males/100 Acres	71		.95		89		74	92	82	109	60		97		87		

The five-year averages indicate well the decided preference of several species for either the warm, dry southern exposures or the cooler northern exposures. Thus,

of the more numerous species, Audubon's Warbler, and Mountain Chickadee seem to prefer, while the Hermit Thrush is definitely confined to, the cooler slopes. Western Pewee, Solitary Vireo and Western Tanager are confined to the warmer exposures, and Chipping Sparrow, Robin, Western Bluebird and Steller's Jay are three or more times as numerous there as in the cooler areas. The preponderance of species in the warmer habitat (32) as compared with the number in the cooler (20) is of little definite significance, as the 10 or 12 least abundant species on the list may be three times as likely to be recorded on 50 acres as on 17 acres.

The most interesting find during the 1956 breeding season was the "nest" of a Common Nighhawk. The two eggs were found July 4, on the ground on pine needles at the top of a ridge; they were still unhatched July 20. On August 5, a nearly-grown young was found hidden under a small pine, about 20 feet from the nest.

Other nests found were one of Mourning Dove, (on a fallen tree, and successful), Violet-green Swallow (3), Western Bluebird (1), White-breasted Nuthatch (1), Red-shafted Flicker (1 probable) and Williamson's Sapsucker (1, in tree used in 1954 by Hairy Woodpecker and Pygmy Nuthatch). Although 3 to 6 Pygmy Nuthatch nests were found during each of the four preceding years, no nest of that species was found this year.

WELDONA NOTES

By Howard Rollin

September 19, 1956 -- The dominant features of the weather here are the continued severe drought and the above normal temperatures; only traces of rain have fallen since August 16, and they were barely dust-settlers. Birds have been, and are, on the move in normal or less-than-normal numbers. The Chipping Sparrows that came in early last month in fair numbers passed through in a short time and none have been seen since. Clay-colored and Vesper Sparrows continue in small numbers. Horned Larks are very common just about everywhere, in the fields as well as the pasture lands. There was a good migration of Monarch butterflies this fall.

The following notes bring migration data up-to-date:

Red-tailed Hawk - 1 8/24; 1 9/10(normal plumage); 1 9/18 in very light plumage but fully red tail.
Krider's Red-tailed Hawk - 1 9/14(very rare, the first in 15 years).
Swainson's Hawk - fair numbers.
Golden Eagle - rarely seen, but are resident up the creek a couple of miles.
Marsh Hawk - fair numbers.
Sparrow Hawk - common
Ring-necked Pheasant - about, but very rare
Killdeer - last 1 8/26; near Weldona 9/4
Wilson Snipe - 1 8/26; near Weldona 9/4
Mourning Dove - very small numbers.
Barn Owl - in the canyons in small numbers.
Horned Owl - common in canyons.
Nighthawk - last 1 9/14; last flock, 11 9/8
Belted Kingfisher - 1 along creek 9/17 (very rare)
Yellow-shafted Flicker - 1 9/16 (very rare)
Eastern Kingbird - last 1 8/25
Western Kingbird - last 1 9/14
Say's Phoebe - common
Traill's Flycatcher - 1 8/22,30
Western Pewee - first 8/22; again 8/26; last 9/7
Barn Swallow - near Weldona 7 8/24; first here this year 5 9/4, 1 9/6,11,16.
Cliff Swallow - near Fort Morgan 25 9/10; one here 8/27

Magpie - common
House Wren - first 1 9/14
Rock Wren - common
Catbird - first 1 9/13, again 9/14
Sage Thrasher - in small numbers
Hermit Thrush - 1 9/7,11,12
Loggerhead Shrike - about all gone now; 1 9/18
Starling - flock of 30 here briefly 9/12
Audubon's Warbler - 1 9/9
Yellow-breasted Chat - 1 9/9
Black-capped Warbler - 1 9/17; again 9/18
House Sparrow - about in small numbers
Western Meadowlark - common
Yellow-headed Blackbird - 6 9/7; common in small numbers to present
Red-wing Blackbird - absent
Brewer Blackbird - absent
Cowbird - 1 adult male 9/2; 2 immature 9/19
Western Tanager - 1 9/16 along creek (very rare)
Lesser Goldfinch - 6 9/19
Lark Bunting - last flock 8/25; last 1 9/8
Vesper Sparrow - 10 8/31; continue in fair numbers.
Lark Sparrow - last 1 9/8
Clay-colored Sparrow - in fair numbers
Brewer's Sparrow - last 1 9/13
McCown's Longspur - first 5 9/1; again 9/15; still present

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NOTES FROM DURANGO

by Oppie Reames

September 19, 1956 - It continues extremely dry in this region. It is reported to be the driest spring and summer, May, June, July, August and September, since 1900. Consequently grass and other ground cover plants did not produce food for sparrows and species feeding on these. Sparrows, both goldfinches, and Pine Siskins are greatly reduced in numbers. However, chokecherries, sumac and some of the other fruit-bearing shrubs, and boxelders did produce a normal crop of fruit. Western Tanagers were here from the 15th of August to the present time in greater numbers than normally present. Evening Grosbeaks have been present during this period in greater numbers, too. Audubon Warblers appear fewer but this is probably due to lack of concentration, and they they usually appear in greater number the last two weeks of September. Virginia's Warblers, Orange-Crowned, Black-capped, and McGillivray's have been here in the usual numbers, but for a longer period of time. Pinon Jays are absent in an area on the Animas River where they are usually to be found in fairly large flocks. Clark's Nutcrackers have moved down to lower altitudes, probably looking for food.

BIRDS OF THE MONTH

by Donald M. Thatcher

October 17, 1956 -- This Fall has been unusually dry and warm, with practically no precipitation since the first week of August and no frosts to date in most of Denver. These conditions have not slowed bird migration appreciably; comparable dates of arrival or departure for most species average a few days earlier than last year's dates, but later reports may alter this somewhat.

The most unusual bird of the past month is the Pomarine Jaeger seen at Marston Lake during the Club trip, Sept 23. The jaeger, an immature, is believed to be a Pomarine on the basis of size (judged to be between Ring-billed and Herring Gulls), readily compared with that of the Franklin's Gulls, with which it was flying, and its elongated central tail feathers, which extended about an inch beyond the others. The bird was carefully observed for several minutes as it rested on the lake shore. This bird and the questioned jeager (believed by some observers to be a Skua) seen at the same place September 24, 1955. (CBN Vol 3, No 2, Oct. 1955, page 11) were both seen by Thompson Marsh, who is certain they are of the same species. A second immature jaeger, which appeared to be somewhat smaller, joined the first one briefly in the air and may have been a Parasitic. A jaeger, not positively identified as to species, was seen also on Sept. 27 at Marston Lake by Cal Royall and Dale Rice. The Pomarine Jaeger has not been taken in Colorado, but has been reported for Nebraska.

Following are Fall migration dates and some unusual occurrences. Several probable October "last" dates have been withheld for next month's report.

Contributors: Mrs. C. N. Collister, Catherine Crone, Mrs. May Hanesworth, Edward Hellstern, Hugh Kingery, Mrs. John Lott, L. Jack Lyon, Thompson Marsh, Sadie Morrison, Robert J. Niedrach, Charles & Mildred Snyder, Joseph Taylor, Donald & Hazel Thatcher, Oakleigh Thorne II, Jean & Parnell White, Dr. Olwen Williams.

American Egret - 1 9/9 Mile High Lakes (AOU trip); 1 9/18 near Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Snow Goose - flock approx. 50 10/17 littleton (RJN)
Turkey Vulture - 30 9/23 near Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Swainson's Hawk - 105 9/8 (Migration peak); last 9/26 NE Colorado (LJL); 100 plus 9/9 Barr Lake (AOU trip); last 9/30 (TM)
Osprey - 1 9/8 Summit Lake (Mt. Evans) (TM)
Am. Sparrow Hawk - 59 9/3, 22-35 9/9-16; 10 9/30 Boulder vicinity (CC); 1 9/8 top of Ice Mtn. (Sawatch Range) elev. 13,900 ft. (HK)
White-tailed Ptarmigan - approx. 70 (20, 30 & several small groups) 9/8 Summit Lake & Mt. Evans (AOU trip); 8 9/11 Summit Lake (DT)
Sandhill Crane - 75-100 9/9 Platteville (Mrs. JL); 250 (2 flocks) 10/11 Ft. Morgan(EB)
Spotted Sandpiper - last 9/4 Denver (TM)
Solitary Sandpiper - 2 8/26 Evergreen (TM); 3 9/9-12; 1 9/30 Boulder vicinity (CC)
Greater Yellowlegs - 9/18 Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Lesser Yellowlegs - 1 8/13 Evergreen (TM); 1 9/16 Boulder (CC); 9/18 Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Pectoral Sandpiper - 9/18 Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Long-billed Dowitcher - 50 8/2 Barr Lake (SM); 9/18 longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Stilt Sandpiper - 9/18,26 Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Amer. Avocet - 400 plus 8/12 Barr Lake (SM); 9/26 Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Black-necked Stilt - 2 8/12 Barr Lake (SM)
Northern Phalarope - 9/9 Barr Lake (AOU trip); 9/26 Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Black Tern - 50 8/12 (SM), 1 9/9 (AOU trip) Barr Lake
Mourning Dove - 3 10/5 Platteville (Mrs. JL); 10/8 Denver (TM)
Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 9/22 Longmont (Mrs. CNC)
Burrowing Owl - 7 9/27 Platteville (Mrs. JL); last 10/14 Denver (TM)
Poorwill - 1 9/21 (dead) Cheyenne, Wyo. (CS,MS)
Common Nighthawk - flock 75 9/9 Wray (Mrs.JL); last 2 9/30 Denver (DT)

White-throated Swift - last 9/8 Red Rocks Park (Denver) (TM)
Broad-tailed Hummingbird - 9/1 Estes Park (TM); last 9/12 Longmont (Mrs,CNC)
Eastern Kingbird - 9/10: 1 Platteville (Mrs.JL), last NE Colo. (LJL)
Western Kingbird - last 9/10 NE Colo. (LJL); last 9/14 Longmont (Mrs.CNC); 1 9/14 Platteville (Mrs.JL); 1 9/16 Boulder (CC)
Say's Phoebe - 1 9/9 Boulder vicin. (CC); 2 9/24 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Western Pewee - last 9/1 Longmont (Mrs.CNC); 9/1 Estes Park (TM)
Violet-green Swallow - 87 9/3 Boulder vicin. (CC); 9/4 Evergreen (TM)
Barn Swallow - 54 9/16 Boulder vicin. (CC); 3 10/2 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Cliff Swallow - last 9/17 Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Red-breasted Nuthatch - 1 9/11 SE Denver (TM)
Brown Creeper - 6 10/3 SE Denver (TM); 1 10/4,8,14 NW Den. (DT)
House Wren - 9/2 Evergreen (TM); 2 9/6 Boulder (CC)
Winter Wren - 1 9/8 Cheyenne, Wyo. (MH)
Canyon Wren - 1 9/12-13 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Rock Wren - 1 9/22,24 & 10/4 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Mockingbird - 1 9/19 Cheyenne (MH); 1 10/14 Boulder (CC)
Catbird - 1 9/10-12 Platteville (Mrs.JL);1 9/23 Cheyenne (MH)
Brown Thrasher - last 9/13 NE Colo. (LJL)
Sage Thrasher - 1 10/4 Platteville (Mrs. JL)
WOOD THRUSH - 1 9/28 Boulder (OT,OW)
Hermit Thrush - 1 9/29 Genesee Mtn. Park (Club trip)
Western Bluebird - 10 9/29 Gen. Mtn. Park (Club trip)
Townsend's Solitaire - 1 10/9 Fort Morgan (EH)
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 1 9/19 SE Denver (TM)
Cedar Waxwing - 12 9/26, 2 9/30, 1 10/4 SE Denver (TM)
Loggerhead Shrike - last 9/14 NE Colo. (LJL)
Solitary Vireo - 9/5 Evergreen (TM)
Orange-crowned Warbler - 3 9/9 Boulder (CC); 1 10/4 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Virginia's Warbler - 2 9/2 Boulder (CC)
Yellow Warbler - 1 9/6 Boulder (CC); 1 male 9/28 (HT) Denver
Macgillivray's Warbler - last 10/6 Denver (TM)
Common Yellowthroat - last 3 9/12 Boulder (CC)
Yellow-breasted Chat - 3 9/3 Boulder (CC)
Pileolated Warbler - last: 1 9/21 Platteville (Mrs.JL); 9/26 Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Yellow-headed Blackbird - last: 15 9/12 Boulder vicinity (CC); 6 9/14 Platteville (Mrs.JL); 9/15 Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Bullock's Oriole - 2 9/9, 1 9/12 Boulder vicin. (CC)
Brown-headed Cowbird - 5 9/3 Boulder vicin. (CC)
Western Tanager - last: 9/24 Longmont (Mrs.CNC); 1 10/6 NW Denver (DT)
Black-headed Grosbeak - 1 10/6 Estes Park (EH)
Blue Grosbeak - 2 9/3, 1 9/12 Boulder vicinity (CC)
Lazuli Bunting - last: 2 9/12 Boulder (CC); 9/13 Longmont (Mrs.CNC)
Dickcissel - 5 9/12, 3 9/30 Boulder vicin. (CC)
Green-tailed Towhee - 1 9/23 Red Rocks Park (JT,DT)
Lark Bunting - last 9/11 NE Colo. (LJL)
Savannah Sparrow - 2 10/7 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Grasshopper Sparrow - 2 9/25 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Baird's Sparrow - 1 10/1 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Vesper Sparrow - 3 10/4 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Lark Sparrow - last 8/20 Platteville (Mrs.JL); 65 9/3, last 4 9/16 Boulder vicin (CC)
Slate-colored Junco - 1 10/7 Estes Park (TM)
Oregon Junco - 9/15 Longmont (Mrs.CNC); 1 9/19 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Gray-headed Junco - 1 10/7 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Am. Tree Sparrow - first: 2 10/6 Estes Park (EH); 1 10/9 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Clay-colored Sparrow - 5 10/4 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Brewer's Sparrow - 2 10/4 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
White-crowned Sparrow - first 1 9/17 SW Denver (JW); 11 9/23 Platteville (Mrs.JL); 182 9/30 Boulder vicinity (CC)
White-throated Sparrow - 1 10/3 Denver Federal Center (DT)
Lapland Longspur - 9/18 near Longmont (Mrs.CNC)

Correction:--The 27 Snowy Egrets, 40 Black-crowned Night Herons and one Long-billed Curlew reported in May (pages 63-64) by John and Margaret Douglass, were at Terry Lake, near Fort Collins, not Longmont or Loveland, as stated.

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CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 1956

October

21 (Sun.) 7 AM Field trip to Marston Lake. John Chapin, leader (SK6-2200) Meet on Alameda in block west of Broadway. (Transportation, 50¢)

23 (Tues.) 8 PM Regular meeting. Mr. R.J.Reichert, of Mirakel Optical Co., Mount Vernon, N.Y., will give illustrated talk on "Binoculars for Birding", also colored slides of birds photographed through binoculars. Bring your glasses and questions. (See Sept. CBN, p. 12) Bird Room, Denver Museum of Natural History (Please use north (employees') entrance)

27 (Sat.) 1 PM Field trip to Sedalia and vicinity. Ruth Wheeler, leader (GL5-3924). Meet on Alameda in block west of Broadway. (Transp 50¢)

November

10 (Sat.) 1 PM Field trip to Bar Ranch, near Morrison. Ruth Wheeler, leader (GL5-3924). meet on Alameda in block west of Broadway. (Transp. 50¢)

17 (Sat.) 1 PM Field trip to Cherry Creek Dam. Thompson Marsh, leader (FR7-5380) Meet at new Library, 14th & Broadway. (Transp. 50¢)

25 (Sun.) 7 AM Field trip to Marston & Bowles Lakes. Donald Thatcher, leader (GL5-3924) Meet at new Library, 14th & Broadway. (Transp. 50¢)

27 (Tues.) 8 PM Regular meeting

December

2 (Sun.) 4-7 PM President's Open House, at the Thatchers', 2916 Perry Street, Denver. All Bird Club Members and friends are hereby invited.

Anyone interested is welcome at all meetings and trips. Please call leader before field trips, if possible. Transportation is by private cars; amounts above are suggested for those riding with others.

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The Denver Museum of Natural History announces the Winter Lesture Program, starting Nov. 4-5, at Phipps Auditorium, Sundays at 2:15 & 4:30, mondays at 6:30 & 8:30. Unclaimed seats (about 300) available to the public, free, five minutes before curtain time. Following are the first five of the series:

Nov. 4-5 Ecuador, Gem of the Andes . . . . . Eric Pavel
Nov 11-12 Spanish Interlude . . . . . Gerald Hooper
Nov. 18-19 Call of the Sea . . . . . John D. Craig
Nov. 25-26 Lands of the Near East . . . . . William Harris
Dec. 2-3 The North Country - Land of the Voyageur . . Sam Campbell

There is also the "Nature on the Screen" series, free to the public, at Phipps, at 8:00 PM:

Oct. 19 Paul Bunyan Country . . . . . Walter J. Breckenridge
Dec. 5 Land of the Scarlet Macaw . . . . . Ernest P. Edwards
Jan. 18 Colorado Through the Seasons . . . . . Alfred M. Bailey
Feb. 5 Animals at Night in Color . . . . . Howard Cleaves
Mar. 22 Between the Tides . . . . . Robert C. Hermes
April 17 Land of the Sky Blue Water . . . . . Fran William Hall

COLORADO BIRD NOTES

Bullotin of the Colorado Bird Club

Vol. 4 No. 3 Denver, Colorado November 1956

CHRISTMAS COUNTS

by John Chapin

The Christmas count period prescribed by the editors of Audubon Field Notes this year is December 22 to January 1. As former participants know, hundreds of counts are made annually in this country and Canada and published in the April A.F.N. Each count is limited to a 15 mile diameter circle and 1 calendar day. The birders in the Denver area make 2 such counts: one in Jefferson county southwest of Denver and one in the mountains, centering near the junction of Routes 6 and 40, west of Idaho Springs. High bird counts depend upon a number of factors, of course, such as weather, but they are primarily a function of the number of party hours spent in the field. Thus, two parties of 2 each are more productive than one party of 4. Christmas counts are usually dawn-to-dusk affairs (The publishers of Audubon Field Notes now require an 8 hour minumum.) and some parties are in the field long before dawn. The counts are usually (here at least) conducted in very cold weather and seldom has a Colorado birder come dressed too warmly for a Christmas count.

The so called "low count" in Jefferson county will be conducted on Sunday, Dec. 23. If a blizzard developes on that day, it will be postponed until Sunday, Dec. 30. The "high count" at Idaho Springs will be on Saturday the 29th but could be postponed until Sunday in case of bad weather.

It has become traditional for the low count participants, together with other Bird Club members and friends to convene at the Chapins', 8441 S. Dahlia Lane, shortly after dusk for the count tally and supper. Since this is a joint venture, gastronomic contributions are accepted.

Parts of the Christmas count areas have been covered for several years by parties under the same leadership, and there seems to be no reason for changing this. All Bird Club members and other interested birders are urged to participate. They should call the leader of the district of their choice, or call John Chapin or Don Thatcher for assignment to a party. Larger districts may be subdivided and parts covered by different parties.

The nine districts of the Jefferson county (low count) area and their proposed leaders are as follows:

1 - Mt. Morrison, Red Rocks Park, Morrison and Bear Creek upstream to Little Park at Idledale. Don Thatcher

2 - Bax and Willow Springs Ranches, Turkey Creek from foothills to junction with Bear Creek, Bear Creek up to Morrison, Soda Lakes. Ruth Wheeler

3 - Bear Creek Valley from junction with Turkey Creek east to Bear Creek road, North on Bear Creek road to junction with Jewell Ave. and the ponds and marshes in that area. Sadie Morrison

4 - Indian Hills, Tiny Town, Little Turkey Creek, Federal Corrective Institute pond, Bear Creek east from Bear Creek Road to Sheridan Blvd. John Chapin

5 - Ken Caryl Ranch and Marston, Bowles, Tule, and Patrick Lakes. John Flavin

6 - Deer Creek from Tiny Town To Littleton, Waterton road, Robert Glover

7 - Platte River near Littleton and town of Littleton. Mr. & Mrs. T. L. Dement

8 - Platte River near Wolhurst and junctions with Deer Creek and Plum Creek and upstream along Plum Creek. Thompson Marsh

9 - Waterton and Platte River above and below it. Ford Kleinschnitz and Jim Humphrey

Districts and leaders for the Idaho Springs count:

1 - St. Mary's Glacier and Fall River Road. John Flavin and Thompson Marsh

2 - Echo Lake and Chicago Creek. John Chapin

3 - Georgetown and Silver Plume. Don Thatcher and Ford Kleinschnitz

4 - Berthoud Pass area. (Open)

5 - Idaho Springs and areas to the South. Sadie Morrison

6 - Virginia Canyon road from Idaho Springs to Central City. (Open)

All those making Christmas counts in Colorado are invited to submit copies to us for publication in the January "Colorado Bird Notes". Counts of reasonable duration, but of less than the 8 hours prescribed for A.F.N. reports, will be welcome also. Th following rules of Audubon Field Notes for Christmas counts are from the October 1956 A.F.N. and are presented here principally for those new to Christmas counts who may wish to make counts for submission to A.F.N., in areas away from Denver:

1. Report forms supplied by Audubon Field Notes must be used. Any other presentation will be returned. If a compiler has not received a form one month before count week, he should request one.

2. These forms will be used by the printer. You are submitting a manuscript so do a neat and careful job. After each species positively identified indicate the number of individuals recorded. Do not include birds found dead. Then, using a red pencil, draw a heavy line through each species not recorded. Type, or print clearly, indicating distinctly letters to be capitalized - this is especially important in the introductory, descriptive material. Condense introductory material as much as clarity permits and place information in the correct space allotted in the form.

3. A count area must fill (preferably) or fit within a 15-mile diameter circle. Compilers should recheck areas as the editor must reject any exceeding the prescribed limits.

4. Counts must be made during the period as announced each year in Audubon Field Notes and must cover only one calendar day. Reports not reaching the National Audubon Society, 1130 Fifth Avenue, New York 28, New York, by January 15th cannot be accepted.

5. Dawn to dusk or longer counts are preferred and those of less than 8 hours duration (except in Arctic areas or on pelagic counts) will not be printed.

6. Birds whose occurrence is of special interest should be underscored with a wavy line to indicate boldface type. Should abundance be the noteworthy item underscore only the number recorded. If birds unusual for your area around Christmas are reported, a sheet must accompany the report giving satisfactory details of such observations.

7. The ruled lines at the end of the form are to be used only for:
   1. Species not seen on count day but during official count period (list species, but not dates or numbers).
   2. All participants who have paid their $.50 fee listed alphabetically. Do not place addresses here - a separate sheet listing all participants and addresses is required for Audubon House files.

8. Do not initiate a new count in an area near one already established (established counts have priority). Preferably help a nearby group make a more thorough count. Compilers of established counts should check neighboring ones to make sure there is no duplication of territory covered. The editor must reject counts where overlapping occurs.

9. Before starting a report, it is suggested that the compiler place the preceding issue of the Christmas Bird Count before him and use it as a guide. Before mailing the form, recheck to make sure everything is correct and no items omitted. Please double-check your addition of (1) number of species seen; (2) number of individual birds seen; (3) number of persons participating in the count.

10. Because of skyrocketing costs, Audubon Field Notes finds it necessary to ask every observer to pay an entry fee of $.50 (fifty cents) for each count in which he participates. It is the compiler's responsibility to send in with his report $.50 (fifty cents) for each participant whose name is listed at the end of the count.

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WELDONA NOTES

by Howard Rollin

October 21, 1956 - The past month saw continuation of the severe drouth of the past summer, and in the last thirty days no moisture at all has fallen. The drouth does not seem to have affected bird life here to any extent. The usual species have been noted; however, some of them have been on the sparse side.

The following data bring up to date bird news here:

All ducks absent.
Red-tailed Hawk - very small numbers to the present.
Swainson's Hawk - last, 10/4
Rough-legged Hawk - not seen yet.
Golden Eagle - more frequent now, but still scarce.
Marsh Hawk - small numbers.
Prairie Falcon - chasing Pigeon Hawk 9/22, seen again 9/30
Merlin - 1, 9/22
Sparrow Hawk - about to present, but very scarce
Ring-necked Pheasant - entirely absent since early summer, when a few came in.
Sandhill Crane - first, 75 10/6; 1400 10/10, came south to southeast of here, then all abruptly turned straight west. Seen again 10/12; 200 10/19.
Killdeer - 1 9/20,22,25; none since.
Franklin Gull - 50-100 9/25
Mourning Dove 1 10/4
Barn Owl - 1 10/4
Horned Owl - about commonly
Red-shafted Flicker - about to present; one roosting under eaves
Horned Lark - very common, especially about fields
Barn Swallow - 5 9/20; fourth time this year
Cliff Swallow - 3 10/10; second record for fall in 10 years

Blue Jay - 1 10/7, rare here
Pinyon Jay - 40 10/3. Not seen often in recent years; used to come down commonly by the hundreds in the fall, most years.
Black-capped Chickadee - very rare, 1 10/10
Rock Wren - 1 10/18
Mockingbird - 1 10/16, first since 8/17 (very late). Only other late date 10/24/52.
Catbird - 1 9/22
Sage Thrasher - here until 10/13
Robin - first 1 9/29; again 10/8-14; very rare all fall.
Hermit Thrush - again 9/29, remained until 10/11.
Mountain Bluebird - 1 9/23, again 9/25; about in small numbers to present.
Townsend's Solitaire - first 1 9/22, again 10/6; not seen since
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - first 1 9/25, again 10/3.
Loggerhead Shrike - 1 10/13
Great Gray Shrike - first 1 10/17, again 10/15.
Starling - 2 10/10 & 17
Myrtle Warbler - here in very small numbers until 10/15.
Pileolated Warbler - 1 9/22, 10/21; very rare all fall.
Western Meadowlark - singing 10/15; common this fall.
Yellow-headed Blackbird - 25 9/21; not seen since.
Brewer's Blackbird - small numbers to present.
Red-winged Blackbird - entirely absent.
Crow Blackbird - 2 9/29; first fall record in 10-12 years.
House Finch - 2 10/17; first since 3/26.
Lesser Goldfinch - 2 9/27
American Goldfinch - 5 10/2, 1 10/18; very rare this year.
Green-tailed Towhee - 1 9/22, 25; very rare this year.
Vesper Sparrow - last 10/1
Shufeldt Oregon Junco - first 2 9/22, about to present
Montana Oregon Junco - first 1 9/22, " " "
Pink-sided Oregon Junco - first 1 9/23, " " "
White-winged Junco - 1 10/17, 20
Tree Sparrow - first 2 10/20, 21
Field Sparrow - 1 9/25; very rare.
Clay-colored Sparrow - last 10/3; common this year.
White-crowned Sparrow - rare this year; about to present, singing 10/15.
Lapland Longspur - first 10-12 10/4; about to the present but is scarce.
McCown's Longspur - common 9/22, 10/1; last 10/3.

November 15 - The past three weeks saw a break in the long drouth, with the blizzard of the first and second, and then an amazing ½-inch of rain November 6. The temperature has been the usual varied warm and cold, with no extremes either way. Birds remain about in their usual fall numbers, though a few are very scarce and some are entirely absent. The following notes bring up-to-date the bird story here:

Mallard - first seen, flock of 150+ 10/27 and only once since 11/12.
All other ducks absent.
Rough-legged Hawk - first 10/26, again 10/27 remains very rare.
Ferruginous Hawk - none
Golden Eagle - about in small numbers.
Marsh Hawk - about in small numbers.
Prairie Falcon - rare, 2 along road to Ft. Morgan 11/9
Sparrow Hawk - rare, 1 10/26; near Weldona, 11/6
Horned Owl - common

Poorwill - not seen this past year.
Red-shafted Flicker - about to present.
Crow - 1 10/30
Rock Wren - 1 10/29
Robin - 2 10/31, 2 11/7, 11/13 (last).
Mountain Bluebird - 1 10/29
Gray Shrike - continues to present.
Starling - few come and go.
House Sparrow - comes and goes, sometimes flocks of 30-50 and down to 2-3.
Red-winged Blackbird - first of fall, 20-25 10/28, and continue to present.
Brewer's Blackbird - 1 11/7 probably last.
House Finch - 1 11/6 (first since 10/17) 2, 11/10 (scarce).
American Goldfinch - 1 10/29; 3-4 small flocks 11/9, 11/11 to present.
White-winged Junco - 1 10/28; 2 11/8, not seen since.
Oregon Junco - Pink-sided and Montana here to present, Shufeldt's not seen since 11/1.
White-crowned Sparrow - common along road to Ft. Morgan 10/29, not seen here since 11/10.
Tree Sparrow - common 11/5, about to present.
Lapland Longspurs - common 10/29, about to present.

Following are other last dates for summer residents and migrants:
Say's Phoebe, 9/28; Rough-winged Swallow, 8/25; House Wren, 9/14, once; Blue Grosbeak, 8/13; Lesser Goldfinch, 10/29; Chipping Sparrow, 8/24; (Some of these "last dates" are considerably later than those reported in last month's and this month's "Birds of the Month".)

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BIRDS OF THE MONTH

by Donald M. Thatcher

November 25, 1956 - Most fall migrations bring a number of unusual birds, and the past month seems to have had more than its share in the Denver area. Probably the oddest and the most difficult to explain is a Roadrunner at Idaho Springs. This bird was first seen October 25 by Mr. & Mrs. Erl Ellis, at their home on the north edge of the town where it came for food. It appeared several times, was seen Nov. 3 by Thompson Marsh and was later photographed by the Ellises. The bird apparently found suitable habitat on the steep south slope - the north side of the Clear Creek valley - which is covered with grass, yucca, prickly pear and scattered juniper trees. This is nearly 100 miles north of the nearest regular range of the Roadrunner. It is reported also that a Roadrunner was seen in August near the top of Squaw Mtn. (elevation about 11,400 ft.) five miles south of Idaho Springs by the wife of the Forest Service lookout stationed on the mountain.

There have been no Lewis's Woodpeckers reported this fall since early September. Has anyone seen this species?

More reports from observers are needed for this report. First and last migration dates, dates for all activities, complete trip lists and counts, and any other observations are desired. It will also be helpful if places such as lakes, reservoirs, streams, canyons, mountains, etc. are located relative to the nearest town (or county) as many of these features are missing from or difficult to find on our maps and have little meaning to anyone not familiar with the locality.

Following are listed a number of unusual species (the most unusual capitalized) and fall migration data. Some "last dates" are later than those previously reported.

Contributors: Venola Bivans, Mrs. C. N. Collister, Ann Condit, Catherine Crone, John & Margaret Douglass, John Flavin, Edward Hellstern, Mrs. John Lett, Thompson Marsh, Margaret Miller, R. J. Niedrach, Cal Royall, Nina Stultz, D. M. Thatcher, Oakleigh Thorne II, Harold Webster, Jean & Parnell White, Ruth Woodward.

Common Loon - 1 10/12 (VB,NS,Mrs.CNC); 5 10/21 (Club Trip); 6 11/11 (Boulder Bird Club), Marston Lake (2 Miles West of Littleton)
RED-NECKED GREBE - 1 10/12 Marston Lake (VB,NS,Mrs.CNC)
Eared Grebe - 1 10/14 Bear Lake, Rocky Mtn. Nat'l. Park (JD,MD)
Western Grebe - 11 11/11 Loveland (JD,MD); 5 11/18 (DT), 1 11/25 (Club Trip) Marston Lake
White Pelican - 15 10/21 Bowles Lake (2 Mi. West of Littleton) (Club Trip)
American Egret - 1 10/5 near Longmont (VB,Mrs.CNC)
Snowy Egret - 1 10/5 near Longmont (VB,Mrs.CNC)
GREEN HERON - 1 10/17-20, 11/11-13 S. Platte River, S. Denver(J&PW) (Probably first record for Denver)
Wood Duck - 1 10/12 (VB,NS,Mrs.CNC), 3 males 10/21, 1 11/25 (Club Trips) Bowles Lake
American Golden-eye - first: 25 11/11 Estes Park (JD,MD); 11/11 Federal Correctional Institution (4mi. West of Littleton) (Boulder Bird Club)
Bufflehead - 9 10/21, 5 11/11 near Boulder (CC); 1 10/21 (Club Trip), 6 11/18 (DT), 12-15 11/25 (Club Trip) Marston Lake (unusually numerous)
Hooded Merganser - 4 10/12 Bowles Lake (VB,NS,Mrs.CNC)
Turkey Vulture - 1 10/21 Boulder County (CC)
Rough-legged Hawk - 1 10/21 Boulder Co. (CC); 2 10/27 Sedalia (Club Trip)
Merlin - unusually numerous - 10 or 12 reports past 3 weeks in Denver area. (JF,TM, DT,JW,HW) (see Weldona Notes)
Sandhill Crane - 80 10/10 Platteville (Mrs.JL) (See October report)
Spotted Sandpipers - last 2 9/12 S. Denver (JW)
Willet - last 1 10/5 Latham Resv. near Longmont (VB,Mrs.CNC)
Dowitcher - last 2 10/21 S. Denver (Club Trip)
American Avocet - 38 10/28 near Loveland (JD,MD)
POMARINE JAEGER - 1 10/12 Marston Lake (VB,NS,Mrs.CNC); 1 11/11 Bowles Lake (Boulder Bird Club) (see October CBN, page 19)
GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL - 1 imm. 10/21 Marston Lake (Club Trip) Much grayer (less brown) than immature Herring Gull, wing tips gray, feet pinkish, bill black, size of Herring Gull. This species not on Colorado list. Similar bird seen at close range on S. Platte R. in S. Denver, 11/24 by Thompson Marsh.
Franklin's Gull - last report: approx. 50 11/1 Crownhill Cemetery, west of Denver (DT)
Mourning Dove - 20 10/27 Sedalia (Club Trip); 1 10/28 Boulder Co. (first since 9/30 CC) 1 10/30 Platteville (Mrs.JL); 1 11/3-4 Littleton(RJN); 1 11/22 Barr Lake (HW)
Long-eared Owl - 1 10/28 SE Denver (TM); Albino, except 1 small dark patch on tail and one on each wing 11/2 SE Denver (JF)
Common Sapsucker - 1 imm. 10/29-31 Longmont (Mrs.CNC); female 10/31 SE Denver (TM)
Empidonax Flycatcher - 1 10/31 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Gray Jay - 1 10/23 SE Denver (TM)
Blue Jay - 4 10/12 Marston Lake (VB,NS,Mrs.CNC)
Steller's Jay - 3 10/14 east of Ft. Collins on plains (JD,MD)
Scrub Jay - 1 10/28 Ft. Collins, 1 11/11 near Loveland (JD,MD)
American Crow - "A'stream' in sight for 1½ miles" 10/30 Platteville (Mrs.JL)

Mountain Chickadee - 2 10/21 Boulder Co. on plains (CC); 2 10/22 Ft. Morgan (EH); 3 11/11 Platteville (first record there for observer, Mrs. John Lett). Frequent in Denver since about 10/5; None reported last winter anywhere on plains, but common the two preceding winters.

Brown Creeper - seen on 15 days between 10/14 and 11/11 SE Denver (TM) Several other reports for Denver.

Marsh Wren - 2 11/10 near Golden (AC,RW,MM); 3 11/17 Cherry Cr. Dam (SE of Denver) (Club Trip)

Mockingbird - 1 11/11 near Loveland (JD,MD); 1 11/21 SE Denver (JF)

Catbird - 1 10/17 Longmont (Mrs. CNC)

Sage Thrasher - 1 10/21 Waverly (JD,MD)

American Robin - Flocks 9/28 NW Denver; several individuals until Oct. 15; 4 11/3 NW Denver (DT). Scarce this fall; was common last winter, due to heavy crop of small wild fruit.

Mountain Bluebird - 6 10/21 Boulder Co. (CC)

Golden-crowned Kinglet - 1 10/28, 11/9 SE Denver (TM)

Cedar Waxwing - 12 10/22 Ft. Morgan (EH)

Great Gray Shrike - first: 3 10/28 Boulder Co. (CC); 1 10/28 near Ft. Collins (J&MD)

Orange-crowned Warbler - 5 10/7 near Platteville (Mrs.CNC)

Nashville Warbler - 1 9/12 Grand Lake (JD,MD)

MAGNOLIA WARBLER - 1 immature 11/13 Denver Federal Center (CR)

Audubon's Warbler - 4 10/19 Estes Park (EH); 1 10/26 SE Denver (TM); last 1 10/28 NW Denver (DT)

Brewer's Blackbird - many 10/9 Platteville (Mrs. JL); 6 11/17 Cherry Cr. Dam (Club)

Purple Grackle - Large flock 10/10-20 (first such fall flock noted since 1953), 1 11/12 (very late) NW Denver (DMT); 6 10/28 Ft. Collins (JD,MD)

Cassin's Finch - 125 10/20 Waverly, on plains (JD,MD)

Red Crossbill - 8 10/19 Estes Park (EH); 12 6/9 Near Marshdale on N. Turkey Cr. (last report for Denver area - see June-Sept. CBN, page 11) (JW,RW)

(RED-EYED) RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE - 1 10/26 Boulder (OT) Believed to be first specimen of this eastern subspecies for Colorado. Howard Rollin reports a sight record at Weldona October 2, 1938 (Our Spotted Towhee also is a race of this species.)

American Tree Sparrow - 1 10/9 Platteville (Mrs.JL); 35 10/28 Boulder (CC); 2 10/28 near Ft. Collins (JD,MD); 1 10/21 SE Denver (Club Trip)

Chipping Sparrow - 20 10/4, 7 10/26, last 2 11/3 Platteville (Mrs.JL)

FIELD SPARROW - 1 10/28 near Ft. Collins (JD,MD)

White-throated Sparrow - 2 or more, several days about Nov. 1 Littleton (RJN); 4 (banded) 10/30-11/5 Boulder (OT)

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* The members and friends of the Colorado Bird Club are cordially *

* invited to an Open House at the home of Donald and Hazel Thatcher, at *

* 2916 Perry Street, Denver, between four and seven in the evening, Sunday, *

* December 2, 1956. *

* THIS IS YOUR INVITATION *

*

* *

1956 MEMBERS, THE COLORADO BIRD CLUB 1957
As of November 15, 1956

(City omitted for Denver, State omitted for Colorado addresses. Denver postal zones in parentheses. Subscribing members indicated by S, juniors by Jr.)

Aarnes, Mr. Henry - 4543 Milwaukee St. (16) KE4-9043

Anderson, Mrs. Ona - Georgetown

Arnold, Rev. Jay - Berthoud

Bailey, Dr. Alfred M. - 4340 Montview Blvd. (20) (Life Member) . . . EA2-8913

Baily, Mr. A. Lang - Davenport Public Museum, Davenport, Iowa (S) .

Bayless, Mr. & Mrs. Frank - 4860 Irving St. (11) GL5-3201

Bell, Mr. Henry III - U.S. Geological Survey Bldg.,Dept. Agriculture Research Ctr, Beltsville, Maryland

Bivans, Mrs Venola J. - 1560 High St., Boulder

Bonnema, Mr. & Mrs. Peter - 1645 Quay St. (15) BE7-4526

Bowman, Mr. Donald E.

Byrne, Mrs. Helen - 726 So. York St. (9) SP7-2951

Caswell, Miss Phyllis - 1336 So. Grant St. (10) PE3-7451

Chambers - Mrs. Donald E., Box 255, Route 1, Broomfield . . . Brmfld 031-895

Chapin, Dr. John L. - 2441 So. Dahlia Lane (22) SK6-2200

Close, Mr. R. E. - Box 490, Route 3, Golden

Collister, Mrs. Carl N. - 706 Hover Road, Longmont

Condit, Miss Ann R. - 3235 Clay St. (Apt. 5) (11) GE3-0492

Crone, Miss Catherine - 1680 6th St. (Apt. 6), Boulder . . . Hillcrest 2-4408

Crow , Mrs. A. H. - 3272 Stuart St. (12) GL5-4378

Crowley, Mr. Lawrence - 1212 Cascade St., Boulder

Cummins, Mr. Buryl - 4515 Parkdale Drive, St. Louis 21, Mo.

Dement, Mr. & Mrs. T.L. - 3653 Josephine St. (5) AC2-5003

Douglass, Mr. & Mrs. John - Box 691, Fort Collins

Durfee, Miss Bertha - 3221½ East 33rd Ave. (5) DU8-2980

Edmiston, Miss Mary K. - 1355 St. Paul St. (6) EA2-5233

Field, Mrs. Lawrence B. - 2005 Ridgeway, Colorado Springs (S)

Flavin, Mr. John W., Jr. - 1315 So. Holly St. (22) SK6-1744

Force, Miss Jessie - 717 Humboldt St. (18) MA3-0531

Friedrichs, Mr. Otto - P.O. Box 1514 (1)

Gifford, Miss Louella - 1057 8th St., Boulder (S)

Glover, Mr. Robert E. - 1936 So. Lincoln St. (10) PE3-8757

Griffin, Mr. Homer V. - Paonia

Hanesworth, Mrs. Robert D. - 3819 Reed Ave., Cheyenne, Wyo. (S)

Hansen, Mr. Charles F. - 701 So. Grant St. (9) RA2-8736

Hansen, Mrs. C. W. - Box 67, Fort Morgan

Hellstern, Mr. Edward - Fort Morgan (Life Member)

Hendricks, Mrs. Philip - Box 1657, c/o Phillips Petroleum Co., Billings, Mont.

Herrick, Mrs. Beulah - 1440 Josephine St. (6) FR7-1414

Hodgekinson, Mrs. Evangeline - 1465 Elm St. (Apt 21) (20) EA2-6757

Hopkins, Mr. Richard C. - 3485 Martin Drive, Boulder

Humphrey, Mr. James - 3010 Lowell Blvd. (11) GR7-3800

Humphrey, Mrs. Ruth - 3495 West 30th Ave. (11) GR7-3800

Hunt, Mrs. Clyde T. - 121 West 1st Ave. (Apt. 4) (23) SP7-7577

Hurlbutt, Miss Catherine - 1910 So. Marion St. (10) SP7-9362

Hyde, Mr. Robert - Route 3, Sterling (S)

Jetensky, Mr. James - 105 W. Irvington Pl. (23) RA2-6987

Juergens, Mr. David - 1928 East 17th Ave. (18) FL5-7468

Judson, Mr. Arch - 729 East 14th Ave. (3) MA3-6302

Justice, Mr. Frank - 1917 So. Quitman St. (19) WE5-9527

Kingery, 2/Lt. Hugh M. - 730 N. Cascade, Colorado Springs (S)

Kirkeby, Miss Alma - 1660 Gaylord St. (6) FL5-4946

Kleinschnitz, Mr. Ferd - General Delivery, Evergreen

Kroon, Miss Kay - 2036 So. Pearl St. (6)

Lamb, Mr. Robert E. - 1012 18th Ave., Greeley

Lambertsen, Mrs. Walter - 122 W. Spruce St., Rawlins, Wyo.

Lederer, Mrs. Beth - 525 College Ave., Boulder

Lett, Mrs. John - Platteville

Licht, Mr. E. L. - 1637 Filbert Court (20) DE3-2837

Link, Mr. & Mrs. Wendell A. - 4400 South Broadway, Englewood SU1-0140

Looms, Mrs. Laura - 771 Franklin St. (18) FR7-1445

Marsh, Mr. Thompson G. - 199 Ash St. (20) FR7-5380

Marvin, Mrs. Anna - 232 Elati St. (23)

Marx, Miss Katherine - 800 So. Emerson St. (9) PE3-4186

Marye, Mrs. J. N. - 1810 Albion St. (20) DE3-2583

Matthews, Mrs Vera - 735 College Ave., Boulder

McClintock, Mrs. H. L. - 1727 Columbine Ave., Boulder

McKee, Mr. Edwin D. - 4845 Redwood Drive, Route 2, Bow Mar, Littleton . PY4-2854

McRae, Miss Phyllis - 248 So. Xavier St. (19) WE4-7244

Miller, Miss Margaret - 4425 Federal Blvd. (Apt. 204) (11) GE3-0454

Morrison, Miss Sadie - 1265 Mariposa St. (4) MA3-0840

Myers, Mrs. Kenneth - Route 3, Sterling (S)

Niedrach, Mr. Robert J. - Box 116A, Route 3, Littleton (Life Member) . SU1-3027

O'Connor, Miss Esther L. - 4829 Holmes St., Kansas City, Mo. (S)

Olson, Mrs. Madge - 25 East 9th Ave. (Apt. 12) (3) CH4-7157

Olson, Mr. Ray - 8651 West 38th Ave., Wheatridge HA4-6823

Peirce, Miss Lottie M. - 625 Maxwell Ave., Boulder (S) HI2-4415

Pfretzschner, Mr. B. R. - 5570 So. Steele St., Littleton SU9-0605

Phelan, Miss Bess - Pacific, Mo. (S)

Pritchett, Miss Margaret - 2735 Federal Blvd. (11) GL5-2863

Ranson, Miss Maud B. - Box 557, Portland 7, Ore.

Rea, Mr. Howard - 141 Gilpin St. (18) RA2-5307

Reames, Miss Oppie - 3177 Main Ave., Durango (S)

Rollin, Mr. Howard - Route 1, Weldona (Life Member)

Rosenbaum, Mrs. Virgil C. - 2825 West 29th Ave. (11) GL5-7600

Royall, Mr. Cal - 262 South Meade St. (19) WE6-1788

Sample, Mrs. Frank - Box 1795, Colorado Springs

Sanderson, Mrs. Alice - 1461 Logan St. (3) AC2-7457

San Miguel, Mr. Alexis - 2320 22nd St., Boulder

Scudder, Mrs. Ona - Georgetown

Smith, Mr. Horace G. - 1457 St. Paul St. (6) (Life Member)

Smith, Mr. Olney G. - 355 Teller St. (15) BE3-5364

Snyder, Mrs. Mildred O. - 1601 Warren Ave., Warren Heights, Cheyenne, Wyo. (S)

Steele, Mrs. J. P., Jr. - 4943 Raleigh St. (12) GR7-4843

Stockwell, Miss Ida - 1221 Washington St. (Apt. 304) (3)

Storrie, Miss Robina - 443 So. Corona St. (9) PE3-0809

Sullivan, Mrs. Berene - Box 292, Route 2, Boulder (S)

Taylor, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph E. - 2393 So. Winona Court (19) WE4-8137

Thatcher, Mr. & Mrs. Donald M. - 2916 Perry St. (12) GL5-7479

Thomas, Mr. Blaine - 1243 Tennyson St. (4) (Jr) KE4-8782

Thorne, Mr. Oakleigh, II - 1701 Hillside Road, Boulder . . .

Thurlow, Mrs. M. M. - 2485 Paseo, Colorado Springs (S)

Turnquist, Mrs. Donald - 5785 West 60th Ave., Arvada HA4-4825

Tyler, Mrs. Harry L. - 1600 Teller St. (15) BE3-2033

Voris, Mrs. C. D. - 1085 Olive St. (20) EA2-7256

Wangnild, Miss Lillian - 1062 So. Elizabeth St. (9) SH4-1622

Weberbaur, Mrs. Jean - 423 East Kiowa St., Colorado Springs (S)

Webster, Mr. Harold M., Jr. - 1321 Steele St. (6) EA2-4585

Webster, Miss Lois - 1620 Detroit St. (6) FL5-8878

Wheeler, Miss Ruth - 3340 West 37th Ave. (11) GL5-3924

White, Mr. & Mrs. Parnell - 1580 South Quieto Court (23) WE6-0606

Winters, Miss Eileen - 1536 Emerson St. (Apt. 6) (18) TA5-3707

Wlassak, Mr. Otto - 1581 Madison St. (6)

Woodward, Mrs. Ruth H. - 5009 Elm Court (11) GR7-4362

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ORGANIZATION OF COLORADO BIRD CLUB, 1956-1957

President: Donald Thatcher
Vice president: Cal Royall
Recording Secretary; Ann Condit
Corresponding Secretary; Catherine Hurlbutt
Treasurer: Phyllis Caswell

Directors:
1955-1957: Mrs. C.D. Voris, Otto Wlassak
1956-1958: James Humphrey,
Ferd Kleinschnitz
Ex-officio: John Flavin

Committee Chairmen:
Bird-banding: John Flavin
Christmas & Spring Counts: John Chapin
Hospitality: Mrs. A. H. Crow
Program: Cal Royall
Publications: John Chapin
Bird Records: Sadie Morrison
Survey: Ferd Kleinschnitz
State Checklist: Donald Thatcher

The Colorado Bird Club meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month, except June, July and August, at 8 P.M., in the Bird Room at the Denver Museum of Natural History. Field trips are scheduled for all months of the year. All interested persons are welcome to attend meetings and trips.

"Colorado Bird Notes", the Club's bulletin, is issued monthly (except in summer) ten times each year, during the week before the monthly meeting. Articles, news and reports of bird observations are desired and should be sent by the tenth of the month to Donald Thatcher, 2916 Perry St., Denver 12, Colo. (GL5-7479)

Dues are payable at the beginning of the Club year (September) and may be sent to the treasurer, Miss Phyllis Caswell, 1336 So. Grant St., Denver 10, Colo.

(1) Regular members: $2.00 per year (first member in family)
(2) Additional regular members from one family receiving only one copy of each issue of "Colorado Bird Notes": $0.50
(3) Subscribing members (out-of-town members who are generally unable to attend meetings or trips): $1.00
(4) Junior members, under 18 years of age: $0.50

All except (2) receive "Colorado Bird Notes".

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A member writes: "The Blue Jays stuff their craws with sunflower seeds and corn kernels - looks like a tablespoonful at a filling. Do they regurgitate this food? They certainly can't digest the large corn kernels nor the tough-skinned sunflower seeds without some kind of pre-digestion or softening."

Several authorities mention the Blue Jay's habit of storing acorns and nuts, such as beech nuts, and some credit the bird with planting the seeds from which many forest trees grow. Apparently the Colorado jays do the same with corn and sunflower seeds. Another member, Catherine Crone, tells of seeing a Blue Jay, in the East, hide a sunflower seed on the ground by covering it with a leaf.

CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER * DECEMBER 1956

November

27 (Tues.) 8 P.M. Regular meeting. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service movie on Souris Refuge. Discussion by Cal Royall

December

2 (Sun.) 4-7 P.M. Open House at the Thatchers' (See page 29) All come.

Week-ends, Dec 1 to 22, to be used for scouting Christmas Count areas. Whether or not you intend to participate in the Counts, all are urged to attend these scouting trips. Call leader for the area of your preference (page 24) and arrange with him (Telephone numbers in membership list)

2-3* "The North Country - Land of the Voyageur" . . . Sam Campbell

5 (Wed.) 8 PM Nature on the Screen --"Land of the Scarlet Macaw" by Ernest P. Edwards, at Phipps Auditorium. Free.

9-10* "Colorado Through the Seasons" . . . . . Alfred M. Bailey

16-17* "Europe's Toy Countries" . . . . . Nicol Smith

23 (Sun.) Low altitude Christmas Count (all day)
December regular meeting to be replaced by meeting at the Chapins' after the Count. All are invited.

29 (Sat.) High altitude Christmas Count (all day)

*Winter Lecture Program at Phipps Auditorium, Denver Museum of Natural History. Sundays at 2:15 & 4:30, Mondays at 6:30 & 8:30. Unclaimed seats available to the public, free, five minutes before curtain time.

COLORADO BIRD NOTES

Bulletin of the Colorado Bird Club

Vol. 4 No. 4 Denver, Colorado December 1956 - January 19..

THE 1956 CHRISTMAS COUNTS

by John L. Chapin

The Christmas counts this year turned out better, generally, than expected. Drought in the mountains may have contributed to poor cone and seed crops and a scarcity of such forms as Grosbeaks, Crossbills and Siskins. In the Idaho Springs area and the higher portions of Jefferson County, Juncos were found only about habitations, a good indication of a poor seed crop.

As usual, some species were unusually common. These seem to include Snipe, Canyon Wrens, Gray Shrikes, Brewer's Blackbirds, Rosy Finches, and White-crowned Sparrows. Others were less common than usual including Kingfishers, Robins, Solitaires, Meadowlarks, and Tree Sparrows. Pheasants and the Raptores seem to have been going down for years.

Certain observations seem worthy of note including a Red-throated Loon in a small pond SW of Denver and observed in perfect light while swimming, diving, lying on its side, and flying. Barrow's Goldeneye at Loveland is a high point. Red-bellied Woodpecker at Sterling while not unprecedented is of considerable interest. The observations of Swainson's Hawk at Colorado Springs and Longmont, Purple Grackles at Longmont, and Rufous-crowned Sparrows and Black-headed Grosbeaks at Colorado Springs would appear to be most unusual to this writer. I hope they were well substantiated to the Audubon Field Notes editor. Last year in the U. S. and Canada there were 18 Swainson's Hawks reported. There were no Black-headed Grosbeaks.

Colorado Springs: Mrs. T. L. Adams, Pfc. Jacob Baker, Mrs. G. L. Catlett, Robert H. Catlett, Stanley V. Davis, Mrs. Kenneth Ewing, Mrs. Lawrence Field, Larry Field, Dr. Mary A. Hamilton, Mrs. Bertha Klug, Mrs. Dickson Leavens, Mrs. W. M. McRoberts, Mrs. Wm. Noble, Mr. & Mrs. L. J. Pickering, Mrs. Inestine Roberts, Mrs. Frank Sample, Stella M. Schmittner, Mrs. Mary Shirer, George Suiton, Mahlon Speers, Dr. Robert Stabler, Mrs. B. E. Sutton, Mrs. M. M. Thurlow, James Turner, Pearl V. Turner, Mrs. H. J. Wagner, Mr. & Mrs. H. J. Weberbauer, Mrs. A. D. Williams. Durango: Thomas J. Frizell, Oppie Reames. Fort Collins: Owen Baldwin, Paul Baldwin, John & Margaret Douglass, Joseph Hall, John Olive. Idaho Springs: Ona Anderson, Phyllis Caswell, John Chapin, Sadie Morrison, Cal Royall, Ona Scudder, Donald Thatcher. Jefferson County: John Chapin, Larry Crowley, Ted & Ruth Dement, John Flavin, Robert Glover, Alma Kirkeby, Ferd Kleinschnitz, Leonard Licht, Don McLean, Phyllis McRae, Sadie Morrison, Cal Royall, Ranson Stone, Donald Thatcher, Parnell & Jean White. Longmont: Jay Arnold, Mrs. C. C. Baker, Mrs. C. N. Collister, Mrs. F. Fox, Mrs. N. Stultz, Mrs. J. Thielen. Loveland: John & Margaret Douglass. Lyons: Richard Beidleman, Hugh Kingery, Donald & Thomas Van Horn, Olwen Williams. Rocky Mountain National Park: Richard Beidleman, John & Margaret Douglass, Norman Herkenham. Sterling: Robert, Mildred, & Meredith Lamb.

Name of Bird	Colo Spgs	Dur-ango	Fort Coll	Idaho Spgs.	Jeff. County	Long mont	Love land	Lyons	RMN Park	Ster ling
Red-throated Loon					1					
Horned Grebe					1		1			
Pied-billed Grebe					3					
Great Blue Heron		1	1		1	2		1		
Whistling Swan					1					
Canada Goose					345					
Mallard	73	4	803		413	3992	3274	4	6	300
Gadwall					8					

Name of Bird	Colo Spgs	Dur-ango	Fort Coll	Idaho Spgs.	Jeff. County	Long mont	Love land	Lyons	RMN Park	Ster ling
American Widgeon	3		1		5					
Pintail	2		3		16	22				
Green-winged Teal	9	5	35		140	10				6
Shoveller			10			4				
Wood Duck					2					
Redhead					1					
Ring-necked Duck		2			14					
Canvasback					4					
Lesser Scaup	9				4	2		1		
American Goldeneye		28			15		18		69	
Barrow's Goldeneye							1			
Bufflehead					6					
Ruddy Duck	1				3					
Hooded Merganser		1			2					
Common Merganser		3			201		12		2	
Goshawk					1					
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	2			2			1		
Cooper's Hawk	2				2					
Red-tailed Hawk	7	2	4		4	4		1	1	
Swainson's Hawk	4					1				
Rough-legged Hawk	1		5		4	10	1			2
Ferruginous Hawk	1					1		1		1
Golden Eaglo	8	1		1	4	4	5	3		
Bald Eagle	5	1				2	1			
Marsh Harrier	4		5		6	6	3			2
Prairie Falcon	1				2					4
Merlin					1		1			
Sparrow Hawk	8	2	2		17	12	2			
Quail (Species?)	16									
Ring-necked Pheasant	5		7		47	33	7	1		11
American Coot	2		10		61	1	6			
Killdeer	10	2	1		14	23	5	15		2
Common Snipe	7				22	7		14		
Herring Gull			1		2	1	2			
Ring-billed Gull					33		1			
Mourning Dove						52		45		15
Screech Owl					1					
Horned Owl	8		1		1					1
Pygmy Owl				1						
Short-eared Owl					1	2				
Belted Kingfisher			1		1	3		8		1
Yellow-shafted Flicker	1							1		
Hybrid Flicker										5
Red-shafted Flicker	94	4	29		80	75	31	45		10
Red-bellied Woodpecker										2
Lewis's Woodpecker	4	3	4			6	2	1		
Hairy Woodpecker	17		4	2	7			5	1	1
Downy Woodpecker	14		7	2	14	6		8	1	
Horned Lark	19	57			188	180	46	4		250
Gray Jay				6						
Blue Jay	3					15				2
Steller's Jay	372		6	49	25	12	6	45	51	
Scrub Jay	129	9			27					
Black-billed Magpie	274	102	100	17	491	201	153	88	43	75
Common Raven	3	1		2					10	
American Crow	101	72	5		97	550				
Clark's Nutcracker	11			16				5	9	
Black-capped Chickadee	156	9	33	6	84	37	4	35	45	2

Name of Bird	Colo Spgs	Dur-ango	Fort Coll	Idaho Spgs.	Jeff. County	Long mont	Love land	Lyons	RMN Park	Ster ling
Mountain Chickadee	95		14	92	30	10	6	43	129	
Common Bushtit	92				1					
Plain Titmouse	1									
White-breasted Nuthatch	10				1	4		2	11	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2			1		1				
Pygmy Nuthatch	72		6		26			4	43	
Brown Creeper	22		7	5	6		1	11	9	
American Dipper	2	9	2	1	4	2	3	29	40	
Marsh Wren					1	1				
Canyon Wren	2		4		8		2	2		
Rock Wren	1		3		1					
American Robin	105	10		1	2	3		2		
Mountain Bluebird	2									
Townsend's Solitaire	13	17	2	22	12	1			2	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	43			6	9			3	12	
Water Pipit	3									
Bohemian Waxwing					12					
Cedar Waxwing	3									
Gray Shrike	3		7	1	10	2	2		3	1
Loggerhead Shrike					1	2	1			
Common Starling	286	35	332		182	1320	184	72		35
House Sparrow	460	275	82	6	241	586	53	42		100
Western Meadowlark	100	1	91		200	220	26	33		150
Red-winged Blackbird	2614	43	61		983	3245				5
Brewer's Blackbird	523				60	15		15		
Crow Blackbird						5				
Black-headed Grosbeak	3									
Evening Grosbeak	29									
Cassin's Finch	19				4			77		
House Finch	255	3	10		57	106	43	14		
Gray-crowned Rosy Finch				26						
Black Rosy Finch				3						
Brown-capped Rosy Finch				6	208					
Pine Grosbeak				1						
Pine Siskin	94	2	107		1		5			
Common Goldfinch	25	5	36		92	1		12		2
Red Crossbill				10						
Spotted Towhee	36	6			4	1				
Rufous-crowned Sparrow	4									
White-winged Junco	4			11	7		1	16	24	5
Slate-colored Junco	50		1	3	29	24	6	11	2	3
Oregon Junco	823	275	40	12	593	294	461	512	19	100
Gray-headed Junco	368	29	3	9	50	4	14	6	2	
Tree Sparrow	197		240		299	505	254	56		140
Harris's Sparrow					1	1				
White-crowned Sparrow	409	3	59		93	419	93	45		20
White-throated Sparrow	1			1						
Fox Sparrow					1					
Swamp Sparrow					1					
Song Sparrow	96		15		77	84	7	16		10
Lapland Longspur	1									
No. of Species	76	35	45	29	86	56	40	44	23	31
No. of Party Hours	55	10	17	18	66	34½	9½	?	18	9
Day of Month (December)	30	29	27	29	23	26	22	23	28	26

WELDONA NOTES

by Howard Rollin

December 15, 1956 - The past month again recorded a break in the long drouth of the summer and early fall. The Thanksgiving week saw the most snow at one time in many years, 9½ inches, and as the ground was warm it did considerable melting and settling. Fairly strong winds piled much of it into drifts and for a week we were marooned here as far as getting out with a car was concerned. The return to fairly warm weather soon melted all except the large drifts. Three more inches were recorded December 7 & 8. On December 14 there was more rain and snow to a total of over a half inch of moisture; it started as rain early in the morning, soon turned to heavy, wet snow and continued until noon. Bird life on all kinds is uncommon including the usually common Horned Lark. The following data bring the records up-to-date:

Ducks of all species and Ring-necked Pheasants are very uncommon, not only right here but throughout the county, hunters tell me.
Rough-legged Hawk & Marsh Hawk - in very small numbers
Golden Eagle - about but not common
Red-shafted Flicker - here until 12/1
Pinon Jay - 2 north edge of Fort Morgan, 12/3
Gray Shrike - rare this year, and not wintering right here as yet (1 12/5)
Starling - rare, 3 11/30
House Sparrow - rare, 4 11/30 & 1 12/7
Meadowlarks - here in small numbers to the present
Red-winged Blackbird - here until 11/20, not seen again until 12/9
Common Goldfinch - remained until 11/29-30; not seen since
The two Oregon Juncos, Pink-sided & Montana are here.
White-winged and Slate-colored Juncos were here during the big snow, Thanksgiving week, 11/19-25; not seen since
Field Sparrow was also here at that time, last seen 11/24. This is the first time it has ever been seen here in the late fall; it is a very rare migrant.
White-crowned Sparrow - 11/29-30, unusual here so late in the fall. It is common near Fort Morgan; several small flocks were seen 12/3.
Tree Sparrow - common, but in small numbers
Lapland Longspurs - not common

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BIRDS OF THE SEASON

by Donald M. Thatcher

January 14, 1957 - This winter has the usual number of unusual abundance of some species and scarcity of others, as compared with the past few winter seasons. Ducks, as indicated by the Christmas Counts, are generally much less numerous than a year ago, except Green-winged Teal and Common Merganser, although 18 species were found, compared with 12 a year ago.

The Mourning Dove, almost completely absent two years ago, was numerous last year and is more so this year, north of Denver. The Blue Jay is noticeably more frequent at Platteville, Greeley and Longmont; it was common a year ago at Fort Collins. The Mountain Chickadee, entirely absent on the plains last winter, is as abundant in Denver and elsewhere (as far east as Fort Morgan) as it was two and three years ago.

The outstanding small bird occurrence about Denver is that of the Common Bushtit. First report was 12 at the Civic Center, Nov. 6, then a flock of 7 to 15 at Mountview Park, seen seven times, Nov. 15 to Jan. 9. and a flock at Cheeseman Park, Dec.3, all by Thompson Marsh. November 28, a flock of about 12 was seen at City Park by

Bertha Durfee and another in southeast Denver by John Flavin; the City Park birds were still present about January 8 (R. J. Niedrach). December 8, the writer found 6 Bushtits at City Park, with 6 Mountain Chickadees and one or two each of Brown Creeper and Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets; while the other species kept to the spruces, the Bushtits separated from them and sat quietly in the sun in a hawthorn. A single Bushtit, Dec. 29, at Red Rocks Park was the first for the Denver Christmas Count. We have only two other occurrences of this species in Denver and immediate vicinty in the past three years. The Douglasses report a flock of 14 in Lower Big Thompson Canyon, west of Loveland, Nov. 22.

The Robin is much less frequent this winter than last, but more numerous than it was two years ago; there are a few small flocks about Denver, but very few to the north. Townsend's Solitaire is much scarcer than last year along the foothills, but seems to occur more frequently on the plains. The Gray Shrike is numerous, as it was last winter, after several years of scarcity.

The Evening Grosbeak and Pine Siskin are unusually scarce, while a year ago they were remarkably abundant, winter and spring. The Red Crossbill, likewise, has moved out, a small flock found during the Idaho Springs Christmas Count being the only report in the Denver area since June, 1956. All juncos are much less common than usual, both in the plains and mountains, but seem to be in larger-than-normal numbers along the lower foothills.

The request for reports on Lewis's Woodpecker brought in a few, from Boulder to Fort Collins (below) but none from the vicinty of Denver; perhaps the Starling's increase is partly responsible for this decline.

A number of reports of the Rough-legged Hawk in the summer months, from the northeast corner of Colorado, by Jack Lyon, were withheld for further checking. Mr. Lyon himself questioned the occurrence of this bird in June and July, as it is known to breed only in northern Canada, but is fairly certain the birds are stragglers of that species. After the last spring migrant (one, April 27), he reports 2 each on June 29 & 30, 1 July 11, and 32 (1-10 per day) on 8 of 18 days in the field in August (most numerous Aug. 2). In September he counted 7 in 7 of 15 days; October, 26 in 7 of 15; November, 11 in 6 of 8 ; and December, 99 in 10 of 11 days.

There is some question as to the identity of the Glaucous-winged Gulls reported in the Denver area in November (Oct. 21 at Marston Lake and Nov. 24 at S. Platte river). The description given might also apply to Thayer's Gull, a northern race of the Herring with gray wingtips, although the more western range of the Glaucous-wing makes that species more likely to occur here.

A group of five Red-throated Loons was reported, hesitantly, by Mrs. Bivans as seen at Marston Lake November 11 by the Boulder Bird Club. These were reported here in November as Common Loons (along with a sixth identified as Common) because of the large number and because of our own experience on two occasions recently where birds that at first to be Red-throats were finally determined to be Commons. Now John Chapin reports a Red-throat on the Christmas Count of which he is certain (he is more familiar with the Red-throat than with the Common) and probably the Boulder Club should be given credit for their report.

Following are some late dates and unusual occurrences (the most unusual in caps). A few Christmas Count birds are included.

Contributors: Mrs. Ona Anderson, Mrs. Vencla Bivans, Fred Brandenburg, Mrs. A. Collister, Catherine Crone, Larry Crowley, John & Margaret Douglass, Bertha Durfee, John Flavin, Edward Hellstern, Robert Hyde, Robert Lamb, Mrs. John Lott, L. Jack Lyon, Thompson Marsh, Mrs. Estella McCutcheon, Robert Poley, Cal Royall, Mrs. Ona Scudder, Donald Thatcher, Oakleigh Thorne II, Parnell & Jean White.

Common Loon - 3 11/22, 1 12/2 Loveland (J&MD)
Horned Grebe - 1 12/8, 22 Loveland (J&MD)
Western Grebe - 1 12/24 SW Denver (P&JW)
Great Blue Heron - 1 11/25, 12/2, 23 Boulder Co. (CC); 1 12/15 Loveland (J&MD)
Green Heron - several during October at Bonney Reservoir (RP)
Black-crowned Night Heron - 3 immatures SW Denver 1/6, 12 (J&PW)
Wood Duck - male 12/1 City Park, Denver (TM)
BARROW'S GOLDENEYE - 1 male 12/22 Carter Lake, near Loveland (J&MD)
SURF SCOTER - female, seen 5 days or more between 11/26 & 12/4 Cherry Creek, SE Denver (TM & Others)
Hooded Merganser - 1 female 12/15 Loveland (J&MD)
Turkey Vulture - 2 12/2 Boulder Co. (CC)
Broad-winged Hawk - 1 about 12/1 Denver (FB)
Bald Eagle - 1 12/23 Boulder Co. (CC); 1 12/22 Loveland (J&MD)
Greater Yellowlegs - 1 11/12, 14 SE Denver (TM)
Mourning Dove - 8 11/30, 14 12/1, 17 12/7, 27 1/4 Platteville (Mrs. JL)(See also Christmas Counts)
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - male 11/16 SE Denver (TM)
RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER - 1 5 days 12/15-27 Sterling (RH); same bird probably one of 2 on Sterling Christmas Count, two miles apart, probably include above individual (RL)
Lewis's Woodpecker - 9/15, 11/6, 6 on Christmas Count Longmont (AC); 1 10/14 Boulder (VB); 2-3 10/28, 11/22, 25, 12/2 Loveland-Ft. Collins (J&MD); 3 11/25, 4 12/2 Hygiene (CC)
Blue Jay - 4 11/11, 2 11/26, 12/16, 4 12/30 Platteville, 2 12/24 Greeley (Mrs.JL); 15 Longmont Christmas Count (AC)
Steller's Jay - unusually numerous, December, Georgetown (OA); also Idaho Springs 12/29 (DT,CR)
Scrub Jay - 1 11/11 near Loveland (J&MD)
Pinon Jay - 4 10/30 Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Red-breasted Nuthatch - 1 11/13, 19 SE Denver (TM)
Brown Creeper - SE Denver: 14 days Dec., 13 days Nov. (TM); frequent elsewhere in Denver
Dipper - 40 in one mile of stream 12/28 Thompson River below Estes Park (J&MD)
Canyon Wren - 1 10/15-29 (unusual) Georgetown (OS); 6 12/29 (unusually numerous) Red Rocks Park (DT,CR,J&PW)
Mockingbird - 1 12/5 Mt. View Park, Denver (TM); 2 11/11 near Loveland (J&MD); 1 12/9 at feeder all day Longmont (AC)
Robin - 18 12/16 near Loveland, 1 12/26, 31 Ft. Collins & vicinity (J&MD)
Hermit Thrush - 1 12/17 (Late) Boulder (LC)
Mountain Bluebird - 1 male 12/31 Waverly (Larimer Co.) (J&MD)
Townsend's Solitaire - 9 days, November & 10 days, December SE Denver (TM)
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 4 11/19, 2 11/25, 1 11/27 SE Denver (TM); 2 12/8 City Park, Denver (DT)
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 1 or 2 12/8 City Park (DT)
Bohemian Waxwing - 2 11/27 SE Denver (TM); 115 1/7 Longmont (AC); 1 12/8 NW Denver(DT)
Cedar Waxwing - 9 11/15, 2 11/16, 3 11/17 SE Denver (TM)
Gray Shrike - 1 or 2 on 7 days in Dec. Ft. Collins-Loveland, 1 12/28 Estes Park (J&MD); 1-2 almost daily, December, Platteville (Mrs.JL)
Orange-crowned Warbler - last: 10/23 Boulder (VB)
Nashville Warbler - 1 11/21 SE Denver (TM)
Myrtle Warbler - last: 10/31 Boulder (VB)
Audubon's Warbler - 2 11/22 Big Thompson Canyon (J&MD)
Brewer's Blackbird - 30 11/12, 4 11/29, 44 12/15 Platteville (Mrs.JL) (see also Christmas Counts)
SCARLET TANAGER - male in winter plumage 11/6 near Longmont (AC)
CARDINAL - 1 11/20 Fort Morgan (EH), still present 12/7 (EM)
Evening Grosbeak - 1 11/30 Boulder (first since small flock 9/18) (VB)
Rosy Finches - first of season, flock of 12 (all species) 11/4 Georgetown (OS); flock of 30 mostly Brown-capped, several Gray-crowned (4 Hepburn's) and 3 Blacks 12/16 Georgetown (CR)
Gray-crowned Rosy Finch - 1 11/22 Moraine Park (Rocky Mountain National Park (J&MD)

INFANTILE PARALYSIS
JOIN MARCH OF DIMES

Pine Siskin - 21 11/14 Platteville, unusual here in winter (Mrs.JL); 25 11/25, 10 12/2 Boulder Co. (CC)
White-winged Junco - 3 11/22 near Estes Park (J&MD); 1 10/29 Georgetown (OS)
Harris's Sparrow - 1 imm. 1/3 Boulder (OT); 1 11/8, 16 Longmont (AC)
White-throated Sparrow - 2 10/31-11/5, one still present 12/29 Georgetown (OS); 1 11/2-7 Longmont (AC)
Fox Sparrow - 1 11/2-5 with White-throats (above) and 1 crippled White-crown Georgetown (OS)

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Winter Lecture Program - Phipps Auditorium, Denver Museum of Natural History, Sundays at 2:15 & 4:30 P.M., Mondays at 6:30 & 8:30 P.M. Balcony and unclaimed main floor seats free.

Jan. 20-21 Egypt Today. . . . . .Alfred Wolff
Jan. 27-28 Japan. . . . . .Hal Linker
Feb. 3-4 Florida. . . . . .Arthur C. Twomey
Feb. 10-11 New Zealand. . . . . .Bathie Stuart
Feb. 17-18 My California. . . . . .Stan Midgley
Feb. 24-25 Hawaii. . . . . .Fran William Hall

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We have received from Howard Rollin his annual gift to the Club - a beautiful painting of the Bohemian Waxwing. Many thanks!

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CALENDAR FOR JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1957

January

22 (Tues.) 8 P.M. Regular meeting. "Ecology of the Colorado Foothills" - discussion by Donald Thatcher. Identification of unusual or confusing species - gulls, jaegers, etc. with specimens - John Chapin and Thompson Marsh. Bird Room, Denver Museum of Natural History. (Please use north employees' entrance)

26 (Sat.) 1 PM Field trip to Cherry Creek Dam (plains and bottomland) - Thompson Marsh, leader (FR7-5380). Meet at SW cornor Denver Dry Goods parking lot - University Blvd & 1st Ave. (Transportation 50¢)

February

5 (Tues.) 8 PM Nature on the Screen - "Animals at Night in Color", by Howard Cleaves. Phipps Auditorium, Denver Museum of Natural History. Admission free.

10 (Sun.) 8 AM Field trip to Bear and Turkey Creeks, Morrison - John Chapin, Leader (SK6-2200). Meet on Alameda Ave. in block West of Broadway ½ day (Transportation 50¢)

23 (Sat.) 1 PM Field trip to Genesee Mountain Park - Donald Thatcher, leader (GL5-7479) Meet at W. Colfax and Sheridan Blvd. (Transp. 50¢)

26 (Tues.) 8 PM Regular Meeting, Bird Room, Denver Museum of Natural History